

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN



11-12

ANNUAL REPORT

MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT

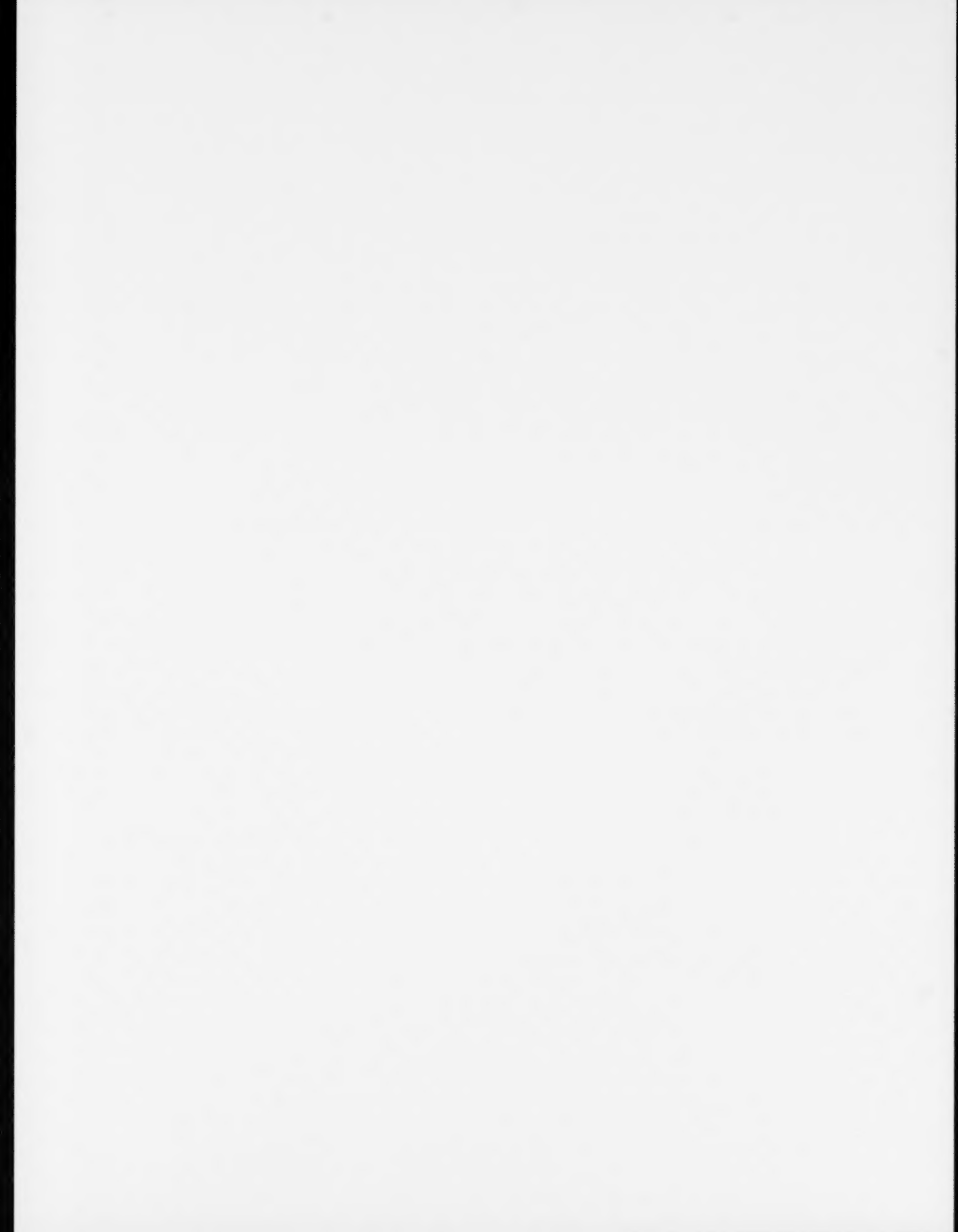


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Letters of Transmittal



Her Honour, the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield,
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Ministry of Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012.

This Government is committed to delivering and building on its promises. I am pleased to report on the progress made in delivering on Government commitments as stated in the *Government Direction for 2011-12: The Saskatchewan Advantage*, including taking steps to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services to ensure the best use of public funds.

Aligned with the Government Direction, the strategies and key actions pursued by the Ministry of Environment this past fiscal year, and the results achieved, are communicated to the legislature and to the people of Saskatchewan through this 2011-12 Annual Report. The report describes the Ministry of Environment's key accomplishments in fulfilling our mission to provide public service excellence in protecting the environment and promoting sustainable use of natural resources to enhance economic and social benefits.

Saskatchewan continues to experience tremendous economic growth. To ensure the province is ready to meet the challenges of increasing economic activity and associated population growth, the Ministry continues to make progress on delivering a results-based framework for environmental regulation in Saskatchewan. A results-based approach will enable increased transparency and accountability, more attention to high-risk areas, improved client service and, ultimately, enhanced environmental management.

During 2011-12, the Ministry achieved outcomes that advanced the new results-based approach. Substantive progress has been made on the Saskatchewan Environmental Code, including engaging the people of Saskatchewan in the review of the code's first edition. The Saskatchewan Environmental Code, the first of its kind in Canada, is a clear, concise statement of objectives, recommended practices and alternatives that describe the acceptable environmental outcomes and standards for particular development activities. Once approved, our Government will proclaim four key pieces of legislation that will enable the adoption of the code, which is expected in 2012: *The Environmental Management and Protection Act*; *The Forest Resources Management Act*; *The Environmental Assessment Act*; and a new act, *The Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Act*.

This year also saw the launch of the Ministry's new Client Service Office to deliver one-stop support to those who access Ministry services. We continue to develop and implement a risk-based provincial compliance plan that focuses compliance assurance and monitoring on areas of highest priority.

We are also reviewing and streamlining our permits and licences to make the application process more efficient and easier for our clients to understand.

Effective environmental management is essential to maintaining the quality of life in Saskatchewan and to ensuring continued opportunities for development. The outcomes achieved in 2011-12, and the initiatives planned for 2012-13, will help protect Saskatchewan's environment and maintain the sustainable use of natural resources for economic and social benefits.

Respectfully submitted,



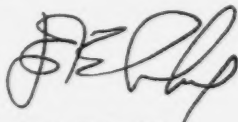
Ken Cheveldayoff
Minister of Environment



The Honourable Ken Cheveldayoff
Minister of Environment

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Ministry of Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012. I acknowledge responsibility for this report and declare that the information contained within the report is accurate and reliable. I further acknowledge responsibility for the financial administration and management control of the Ministry of Environment.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth Quarshie
Deputy Minister of Environment

Introduction

This annual report for the Ministry of Environment presents the Ministry's results on activities and outcomes for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012. It reports to the public and elected officials on public commitments made and other key accomplishments of the Ministry.

Although a renewed vision and set of goals were introduced as a result of the 2011 provincial election, the *2011-12 Annual Report* will be presented in relation to the vision and goals that guided the development of the 2011-12 Plan.

Results are provided on publicly committed strategies, actions and performance measures identified in the 2011-12 Plan.

The report also demonstrates progress made on Government commitments as stated in the *Government Direction for 2011-12: The Saskatchewan Advantage*, the Minister's Mandate letter, throne speeches and other commitments and activities of the Ministry.

The annual report demonstrates the Ministry's commitment to effective public performance reporting, transparency and accountability to the public.

Alignment with Government's Direction

The Ministry's activities in 2011-12 align with Government's vision and three goals:

Our Government's Vision

A secure and prosperous Saskatchewan, leading the country in economic and population growth, while providing a high quality of life for all.

Government's Goals

- **Sustain economic growth** for the benefit of Saskatchewan people, ensuring the economy is ready for growth and positioning Saskatchewan to meet the challenges of economic and population growth and development.
- **Secure Saskatchewan** as a safe place to live and raise a family where people are confident in their future, ensuring the people of Saskatchewan benefit from the growing economy.
- **Keep Government's promises** and fulfill the commitments of the election, operating with integrity and transparency, accountable to the people of Saskatchewan.

Together, all ministries and agencies support the achievement of Government's three goals and work towards a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan.

To support the goal of Growth, the Ministry continues to make progress on delivering a results-based model for environmental regulation in Saskatchewan. Key pieces of enabling legislation were modernized and passed in the spring 2010 legislative session. Substantive progress has been made in the development of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code, a key component of the new results-based regulatory framework, with the first edition of the code having gone through public review in early 2012. Proclamation of the first edition of the code is targeted for 2012.

Progress has been made on managing the sustainable use of natural resources to increase economic benefits, which supports the Government's goal of Growth. For example, the Ministry led the land use planning process to inform development and resource allocation decisions and supported forest industry revitalization. The Ministry continues to develop and implement a risk-based provincial compliance plan that focuses compliance assurance and monitoring on areas of highest priority.

The Government's goal of Security is supported by the Ministry in a number of strategies. First, the Ministry continued to work on preventing and

Ministry Overview

reducing the risks to the health of people and the environment. Progress on this is demonstrated through such measures as the air quality index, drinking water quality compliance and the percentage of waste recycled. The Ministry also maintains healthy air, land, water and ecosystems that support native biological diversity. Progress has been made with stakeholders and partners in the Boreal Watershed Initiative, which was established to assess and maintain the ecological integrity of Saskatchewan's northern watersheds. The Ministry is also leading the government's efforts to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change and support the delivery of the province's Go Green Plan.

The Ministry of Environment has also made progress in support of the final Government goal of Keeping Promises. The Ministry continues to enhance cooperation among intergovernmental agencies in environmental and resource management by working with various federal and provincial agencies to minimize duplication and maximize co-operation in environmental regulation and also by working cooperatively with First Nations and Métis people in environmental and resource management. Progress was also made on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Ministry's programs and services to ensure the best use of public funds by enhancing a client-focused culture that supports high-quality service and continuous improvement.

The mandate of the Ministry of Environment is to work with our partners in protecting our water, air and natural resources to achieve a high environmental standard and to support sustainable development in the use of these resources. The Ministry guides government efforts to help Saskatchewan people and communities Go Green and to meet provincial greenhouse gas emission targets.

The Ministry has the following key lines of business:

Environmental Assessment manages the government's environmental impact assessment process to ensure that development proposals are planned in an environmentally-responsible manner and that the public has an opportunity to understand the potential impacts associated with a development and express any concerns that they may have.

Client Service Office helps clients navigate through regulatory, application and permission processes via a variety of channels and maintains a registry of Ministry-administered permissions. It is also responsible for gathering, maintaining and sharing the Ministry knowledge base to facilitate easier access to information about the Ministry and its programs.

Climate Change leads the development of the provincial Go Green Fund efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, support water conservation, and enable biodiversity initiatives. It is responsible for supporting the government-wide climate change program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the province.

Industrial develops and manages environmental protection components of the following: mining operations; industrial and commercial operations; hazardous materials spills and environmental emergencies; impacted (contaminated) sites; and hazardous substances and waste dangerous goods storage facilities.

Municipal develops and delivers: drinking water programs; wastewater programs; solid waste programs; waste minimization, recycling and stewardship program oversight; Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment standards workgroup participation; and limited surface water quality monitoring and aquatic nuisance control. It also provides financial support to the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority to manage and protect source water quality and to SARCAN for the Beverage Container Collection and Recycling System and an operating grant to the Saskatchewan Water Appeal Board.

Technical Resources provides leadership and support on complex environmental issues,

including expert advice, training and assistance throughout the Ministry, and coordination of federal – provincial research and standards development. It also delivers the air quality program and provides a secretariat role to manage and coordinate the Ministry's development of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code.

Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity provides programs to ensure that sustainable fish and wildlife populations, biological diversity and healthy ecosystems remain available for the recreational, social and economic benefit of Saskatchewan people. The Fish and Wildlife Development Fund receives a portion of the revenue from hunting, trapping and angling licence sales to secure ecologically-important fish and wildlife habitat and promote resource education and endangered species programming.

Compliance and Field Services develops and delivers province-wide compliance and field enforcement programs, based on the Ministry's compliance strategy and risk assessment, to protect the environment and manage natural resource use. This compliance strategy emphasizes education and awareness and a significant part of the program work is in building a collaborative approach to compliance. It maintains a hazardous spill emergency response unit and an enforcement call centre and also provides compliance and field services in provincial parks to the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

Lands delivers programs for the management of Crown resource land to maintain healthy ecosystems, in balance with land use. It issues permits and leases for petroleum and mineral exploration and development, wild rice production, building cabins, operating outfitting camps and peat harvesting. It implements integrated land use plans on Crown lands and responds to Treaty Land Entitlement and specific land claims involving Crown land.

Wildfire Management plans and delivers risk-informed forest fire management activities, including detection, preparedness, suppression and protection of values at risk. It maintains an aerial firefighting fleet, a radio communications network and meteorological services and assists other jurisdictions with wildfire suppression. It conducts public wildfire awareness, risk mitigation and educational programs.

Forest Service delivers an ecosystem-based approach to managing provincial forests. It allocates forest resources to promote sustainable forest industry development, monitors forest health, prevents and controls damage from

significant insect and disease threats and administers forest inventory and renewal programs.

Aboriginal Affairs provides leadership, coordination and integration of the Ministry of Environment's Aboriginal programs enabling the Ministry, First Nations and Métis peoples, stakeholders and the public to work co-operatively towards common goals and assist the government in meeting its legal obligations to and the interests of Aboriginal people.

Central Management and Services provides executive direction and centrally-managed services in finance, information management, communications, planning and other operational services, including accommodations required for the delivery of the Ministry's mandate. It also provides financial and administrative services to the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

Strategic Planning and Performance

Improvement provides strategic planning, risk analysis and management, business continuity planning, and coordination of occupational health and safety programs.

The Ministry administers 19 pieces of legislation and associated regulations designed to ensure sustainable development and effective pollution prevention and resource management throughout the province. Some of the legislation includes: *The Environmental Assessment Act*; *The Environmental Management and Protection Act*; *The Forest Resources Management Act*; *The Prairie and Forest Fires Act*; *The Wildlife Act*; *The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan)*; and *The Provincial Lands Act*. As the Ministry moves towards a results-based regulatory model, a number of these acts and regulations are being revised (See Appendix B for a description of the legislation).

The Ministry maintains 52 offices located in communities throughout the province and delivers a broad range of programs. In 2011-12, the Ministry of Environment's Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) allocation was 992.8. The actual FTE utilization for 2011-12 was 943.7, a variance of 49.1 FTEs. The variance between budgeted and actual was mainly due to vacancies associated with delays in staffing vacant positions and other vacancies being held as part of finalizing the Ministry's new organizational structure which requires dedicated client service, auditing and technical review capabilities.

Progress in 2011-12

Government Goal: Economic Growth

Strategy - Deliver effective results-based environmental regulation

Key Actions & Results Continue to implement program changes required by proclamation of *The Environmental Assessment Act*, *The Forest Resources Management Act* and *The Environmental Management and Protection Act*.

- To support a new results-based approach to environmental regulation, amended versions of *The Environmental Assessment Act*, *The Forest Resources Management Act* and *The Environmental Management and Protection Act* were passed, but not proclaimed, in the spring 2010 legislative session. The Saskatchewan Environmental Code is a key component of Saskatchewan's results-based environmental regulatory framework and once the initial sections of the code are completed and approved, the new legislative framework will be brought into effect. Work continues on finalizing code chapters, standards, compliance functions and guidance documents to support effective and efficient implementation of the new amendments. Program changes will be implemented when the code is complete and the amendments to the applicable legislation have been proclaimed.
- Proponent guidance documents have been developed to support the legislative amendments to *The Environmental Assessment Act* and information sessions on the new guidance documents have been delivered to industry representatives. An application form for ministerial determination has also been developed and is ready for implementation. Administrative procedures and guidelines have been prepared and training delivered to assist staff in administering the process changes.
- Other results include the completion and approval of the *Compliance Management Framework in a Results-Based Regulatory System* document and the completion of a supporting Compliance and Enforcement Plan Template for developing branch-specific and Ministry-level annual compliance plans.
- The Ministry undertook a major Business Transformation Project in 2011-12 to identify

priority activities to move towards results-based regulation delivery. Individual program branches will be implementing improvements to the delivery of services throughout the ministry during 2012-13.

(2009 Throne Speech, 2010 Mandate Letter)

Continue consultations with targeted stakeholder groups such as business organizations, academics, environmental non-government organizations, municipal and industry representatives and with First Nations and Métis, on legislative amendments and development of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code

- The development of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code has involved an unprecedented level of stakeholder involvement, leadership and collaboration. In all, more than 200 experts and leaders from industry, professional associations, government agencies, environmental organizations, municipalities, First Nations and Métis communities and academia have contributed their time and expertise. Significant progress has been made in 2011-12. Six Code Content Committees, made up of stakeholder representatives and government staff, met over 50 times in total resulting in the drafting of 19 code chapters for public review. The Code Development Committee (CDC), consisting of a diverse group of stakeholder representatives, met four times to provide overall guidance to the development of code content. The Qualified Persons Advisory Committee (QPAC), consisting of members of professional associations and representatives of environmental science not represented by professional associations, met five times to review the skills and competencies and to identify the qualified persons required for the activities regulated by the code.
- A draft of the first edition of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code went through public review in January-March 2012. The code secretariat held 20 meetings and met with more than 800 individuals and received more than 85 written submissions. First Nations and Métis were consulted regarding the code as per the provincial *Consultation Policy Framework*. Three regional information sessions were held and twelve written submissions from First Nations were received. Through consultations, meetings, presentations and public review, Ministry stakeholders have gained a better understanding of the code. The Ministry has

begun drafting the final versions of code chapters.

- Development of forestry code chapters and standards are on track for proclamation of amendments to *The Forest Resources Management Act* and the adoption of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code. Five code forestry chapters (Forest Regeneration Assessment, Forest Operating Plan, Forest Data Submission, Forest Management Planning and Forest Products Scaling) were developed with the support of the forest industry. The technical requirements are managed as standards that are adopted under the code. The standards provide the flexibility to make changes and adopt additional proven technologies quickly. The chapters contain the fundamental principles and elements governing the activity.
- Code chapters related to waste management and the management and protection of air, land, and water have been developed to support the implementation of *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010* and the results-based approach to environmental regulation.
- The CDC and QPAC will continue to meet as needed to provide their expertise and new Code Content Committees will be formed as new code chapters are developed throughout 2012-13. More information on the code is available on the Ministry website: www.environment.gov.sk.ca.

(2009 Throne Speech, 2010 Mandate Letter)

Continue to implement new divisional and branch organizational structures including the Client Service Office, in support of the new environmental management model.

- In addressing the requirements of the new results-based regulatory model, the Ministry of Environment has completed changes to its organizational structure and continues staffing to establish dedicated client service, auditing and technical review capabilities. The new structure will help establish the Ministry as an effective and high performance organization. In support of this change, a learning and development plan has been implemented.
- The Client Service Office (CSO) is 80 per cent staffed and operates out of two locations: Regina and Prince Albert. The CSO will support the results-based regulatory model through the development of Ministry client service standards and a Ministry knowledge base.

- Restructuring of the Environmental Assessment Branch along with staff training has improved technical knowledge and efficiencies in branch operations and assisted in the transition towards results-based regulations.

(2009 Throne Speech, 2010 Mandate Letter)

Implement information technology (IT) initiatives to support the new environmental management model such as:

- implementing the application processing and permissions management system;
- starting work to establish an overall Environmental Information Management System; and
- starting work to establish and upgrade systems for managing the compliance assurance mandate within the Ministry's results-based regulatory business model.
- Work continues on the Application Processing and Permissions Management (APPM) project, which will provide clients and proponents with the ability to submit their applications to the Ministry online. The Ministry developed a plan for launching of online applications in mid-2012. As most resources are focused on trying to move the APPM forward, limited progress has been made on other information technology initiatives. (2009 Throne Speech, 2010 Mandate Letter)

Strategy - Manage sustainable use of natural resources to increase economic benefits

Key Actions & Results

Lead land use planning to inform development and resource allocation decisions that are supported by diverse stakeholders and user groups by:

- initiating development of an implementation plan for the Regional Environmental Study of the Great Sand Hills;
- initiating the final review of the Pinehouse Dipper and Fort a la Corne land use plans;
- submitting the Buffalo Pound land use plan for review and approval; and ongoing implementation of the Pasquia Porcupine, Amisk/Atik, La Ronge, Misinipiy, Prince

Albert Model Forest, Manitou Sand Hills and Nisbet land use plans.

- The Ministry continues to lead land use planning to inform development and resource allocation decisions that are supported by diverse stakeholders and user groups. Currently there are 7.3 million hectares of Crown resource land under land use plans, with an additional seven million hectares undergoing a planning process. An implementation strategy is being finalized for responding to the Regional Environmental Study of the Great Sand Hills. The final drafts of Pinehouse Dipper and Fort à la Corne land use plans are being reviewed prior to final public consultations. The Misinipiy Land Use Plan was finalized for approval in the 2012-13 fiscal year. Ongoing implementation activities are occurring for all other land use plans. (2007 and 2010 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Facilitate land acquisition by Treaty Land Entitlement First Nations.

- The Ministry of Environment continued to facilitate land acquisitions by Treaty Land Entitlement First Nations and those First Nations with Specific Claim agreements. In 2011-12, the Ministry responded to and provided environmental comments on 137 private land and Crown land selections. This information is used by provincial government agencies in their determination of whether lands are available. (2010 Mandate Letter)

Continue to identify, protect and manage sites within the provincial Representative Areas Network.

- The Ministry continued to identify, protect and manage sites within the Provincial Representative Areas Network. There are 5.96 million hectares (approximately nine per cent of the province) in the Representative Areas Network and the Ministry continues to work to designate additional terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. The Misinipiy Integrated Land Use Plan, when approved in 2012, will designate 365,000 hectares as protected area, including the 333,000 hectares at Pink Lake that will be the largest ecological reserve in Saskatchewan. Other sites under consideration include Cree Lake, sites in the Pinehouse-Dipper and Nisbet Forest Land Use Plans, and the Great Sand Hills. (2007 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Continue to develop and implement a risk-based, provincial Compliance Plan that

supports the results-based regulatory framework and focuses compliance assurance and monitoring on areas of highest priority within the Ministry mandate.

- The Ministry's new risk-based Compliance and Enforcement Framework was approved in May 2011 and a Compliance and Enforcement Plan Template has been developed. Work has begun to implement the new compliance and enforcement planning process utilizing the template for developing branch specific and Ministry annual compliance plans for 2013-14. (2010 Mandate Letter)

Enhance the facilitation of orderly and sustainable industry growth in the oil/gas/mineral exploration sectors by online permitting, conducting environmental reviews and approving surface access to mineral and petroleum projects where appropriate.

- The Ministry continues to review and approve mineral exploration and oil and gas projects in a timely manner. The processes are reviewed on an ongoing basis with industry and updated as needed to ensure they remain effective. Online permitting is tied to Ministry-wide information management and technology initiatives as part of the development of a results-based regulatory framework. For the 2011 calendar year, there were 6,942 oil and gas projects reviewed, compared to 6,613 projects in 2010. Mineral exploration projects reviewed in 2011 were 78 compared to 151 in 2010 and 482 linear development projects were reviewed in 2011 compared to 448 in 2010. (2010 Mandate Letter)

Support forest industry revitalization by:

- **protecting the commercial forest from insects and diseases;**
- **ensuring renewal of harvested areas within the provincial forests;**
- **encouraging a more efficient licensing structure and increased partnerships within the Independent Operator sector associated with the Prince Albert Forest Management Agreement during the allocation of additional wood volumes;**
- **working with Energy and Resources to license the wood supply to facilitate redevelopment of the Prince Albert Pulp Mill; and**
- **continuing to support the development of an industry that produces biomass energy from wood by assisting proponents in the analysis of feedstock quality and quantity.**

- The Ministry provides many services to control the introduction, spread and impact of insects and diseases on Saskatchewan's commercial forest. In June 2011, 21,255 hectares were sprayed with the biological insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki* (Btk), to control spruce budworm around the Hudson Bay area. The application reduced the defoliation category in all treatment areas from severe to moderate and successfully prevented significant damage for the 2011-12 growing season. Monitoring activities were completed in 2011-12 to quantify spruce budworm populations to predict next year's defoliation intensity and to plan response action. Results have so far identified the Hudson Bay and Green River areas for response action in 2012-13.

Systematic aerial surveys detect and measure insect and disease disturbances and are critical to informing risk and management responses. Aerial surveillance and mapping of insect and disease disturbances has been completed for the provincial forest from the Alberta to the Manitoba borders and from the forest fringe north to the Churchill River. Apart from spruce budworm, no serious threat was detected in the northern boreal forest of Saskatchewan.

Most notably, no mountain pine beetles (MPB) have been detected in the northern boreal forest. To support a joint initiative in implementing MPB control to stop the spread into Saskatchewan, the province provided \$150,000 to the Alberta government in 2011-12 to combat MPB in Alberta. Mountain pine beetle aerial surveys, ground-truthing and control work continues in Cypress Hills Inter-Provincial Park. To reduce the risk of MPB outbreaks in the park, 269 trees have been marked for removal in 2012-13. Ministry staff attended a federal-provincial MPB workshop in Alberta in November 2011 to improve their knowledge of MPB risk to Saskatchewan and learn about response options.

- Government's commitment to the renewal of harvested areas within the provincial forest continued in 2011-12, with work on preparing sites for planting, tending previously planted areas and monitoring regenerated areas. 1,307,724 seedlings were planted on 906 hectares of land in the Pasquia Porcupine Forest Management Agreement (FMA) area and 713,680 seedlings were planted on 459 hectares in the Island Forest. Combined with previous year's renewal activities,

approximately 90 per cent of backlog planting that the government is responsible for is now considered sufficiently regenerated in the Pasquia Porcupine FMA. Tree planting to reduce the backlog in the Island Forest is four years away from being fully achieved. Audits of industry renewal surveys indicate excellent industry compliance with renewal standards.

- Decisions about the allocation of additional wood volumes within the Independent Operator sector of the Prince Albert FMA have been made. A request for proposals was issued in January 2012 to assign the additional wood volumes. The Forest Service Branch has finalized the allocation of timber to Independent Operators through the issuance of Timber Supply Licences (TSL) and permits. Licences will have the provision for increased integration of planning and renewal operations with the Sakaw Askiy Forest Management Inc. (Sakaw) partners. All TSLs are expected to be issued by fall 2012.
- The Ministry of Environment, in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Resources, has explored options to achieve the full wood supply volume required by the Prince Albert Pulp Mill. A draft amendment to the Pasquia Porcupine FMA has been negotiated to support the flow of wood fiber from the FMA to the pulp mill. Virtually all the area based licences in the province have to be amended to address the fiber needs for the pulp mill. (2010 Throne Speech)
- Work continued with the Ministry of Energy and Resources and FPInnovations to refine estimates of biomass available to support of the biofuel industry in the province. Dues associated with biomass are under consideration in the review of the provincial dues and fees structure.

(2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Support natural resource-based tourism by implementing an automated hunting and fishing licence system.

- A Request for Proposal was issued in December 2011 and closed in February 2012. Proposals were reviewed and rated and a contract was awarded to Active Network Canada Inc. in May 2012. Implementation of an automated system is planned for the spring of 2013. (2010 Mandate Letter)

Performance Measures & Results

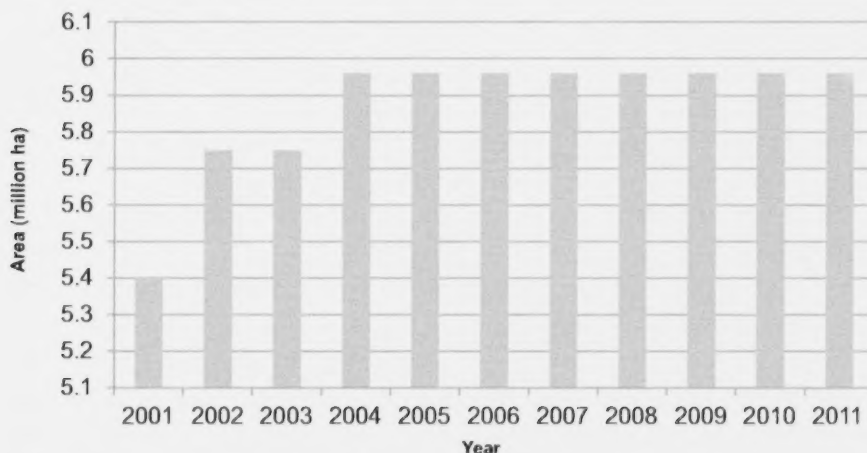
Number of Hectares of Crown Land under Integrated Land Use Plans

Integrated land use planning is an ecosystem-based tool that links the environment, the community, and the economy in ways that help ensure the sustainability of resources. Land use plans are tools the Ministry uses to manage the subject land area with certainty as to acceptable activities and levels of protection and conservation; this activity aligns with the Ministry's strategy to manage sustainable use of natural resources to increase economic benefits. The unification of the varied interests through the planning process requires time, commitment, a

high-level of participation, and financial resources, but results in more efficient and supported resource management decision-making over the long term.

The total area of Crown land under integrated land use plans remained at 7,267,700 hectares from 2004-05 to 2011-12 (Source: Lands Branch). While no new plans were approved in 2011-12, the Misinipiy Integrated Land Use Plan will be forwarded for approval in 2012 and significant progress has been made on the Nisbet Integrated Forest Land Use Plan.

Number of Hectares in the Representative Areas Network (RAN)



Source: Ministry of Environment, Lands Branch

The Representative Areas Network (RAN) is intended to conserve representative and unique landscapes throughout the 11 ecoregions of the province. The RAN includes designated Crown lands that have been given a level of protection by virtue of legislation and private lands that are managed for biodiversity by agreement. The measure of the number of hectares in the RAN is an indicator of the province's commitment to supporting the protection and retention of native habitat and of long-term ecological health and aligns with the key actions of maintaining a healthy and productive environment and minimizing impacts on the environment. Establishing protected areas is seen in the international science community as a "natural solution" and a powerful tool against carbon emissions and possibly climate change. RAN areas also serve to help maintain biodiversity and act as benchmarks when compared to managed landscapes.

There are challenges in adding significant numbers of hectares to the RAN. In agricultural portions of the province, the vast majority of land is privately held and additions to the RAN are achieved in small quantities. In northern Saskatchewan, even though Crown land dominates, many interests must be considered and weighed to achieve a balance between conservation and economic development.

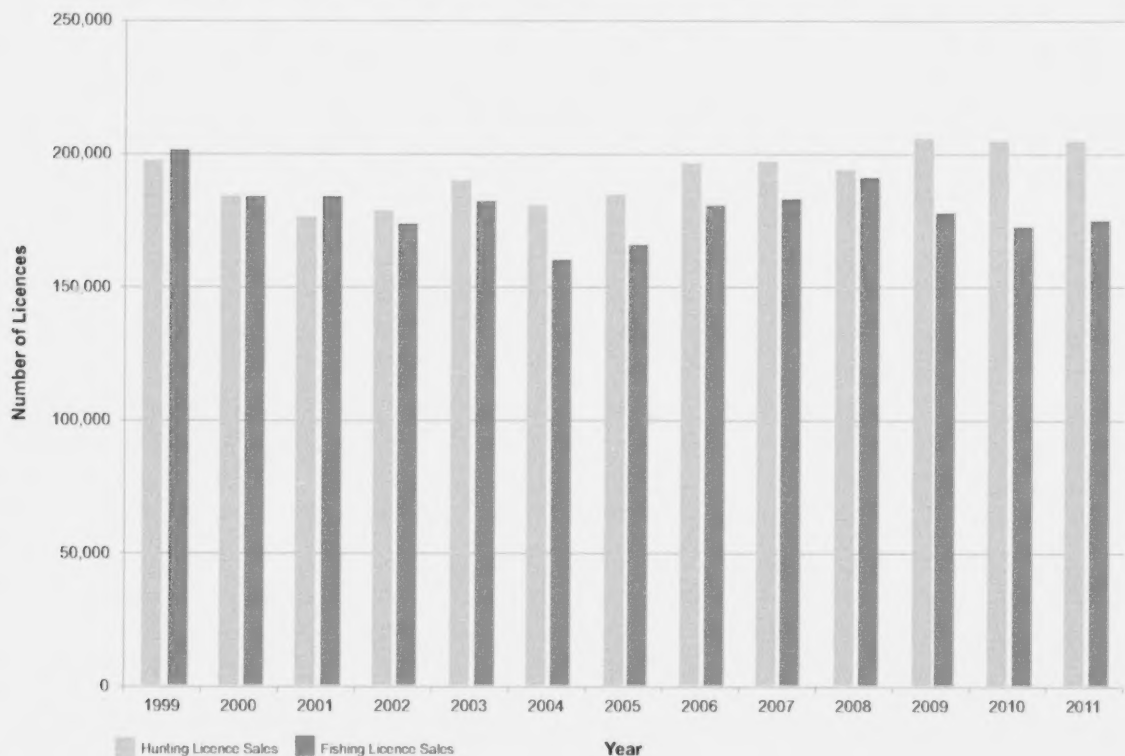
The greatest risk to achieving the RAN targets are increasing development pressures and the resulting developments that either decrease the ecological value of the land or take up lands fully so that they are not representative of a natural landscape. As well, lack of support for protected areas by some users is a risk.

There are 5.96 million hectares or approximately nine per cent of the province in the RAN. The number of hectares in the Representative Areas

Network remains unchanged from 2004 to 2011. However, the Misinipiy Integrated Land Use Plan will be forwarded for approval in 2012, which will result in new designations being formalized in

2012-13, and significant progress has been made on the Nisbet Integrated Forest Land Use Plan which will also identify new areas to be designated in the RAN.

Number of Hunting and Angling Licences Sold 1999-2011



Source: Ministry of Environment, Fish and Wildlife Branch

Hunting and angling are of social, cultural, and economic importance in the province. Licence sales are tracked annually and serve both as an indicator of short- and long-term interest in these activities and as an indication of the importance of hunting and fishing as significant contributors to the economic health of the province. Measuring the number of licences sold helps to determine the priority areas for fish and wildlife population assessments and to manage the competing interests of users. As such, this measure aligns with the Ministry's strategy to manage sustainable use of natural resources to increase economic benefits.

The Ministry has experienced high-levels of participation in angling and hunting activities by members of the public over the last number of years which supports continued focus on conservation management of our wildlife and

fisheries resources. In 2011, the number of hunting licences sold was 204,734, a decrease of less than one per cent over 2010 sales. The drop in hunting licence sales was primarily a result of a decrease in interest in draw mule deer and antlerless mule deer licences.

Also in 2011, the number of fishing licences sold was 174,502, an increase of less than one percent over 2010 sales. Saskatchewan resident and three-day Saskatchewan resident licence sales experienced a slight increase. The reason for this is unknown, but small fluctuations in licence sales commonly occur from year to year.

Rate of Compliance with Environmental Laws and Regulations

Sector	Compliance Rate				Field Contacts				Warnings				Charges Laid			
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Wildlife	87%	88%	91%	94%	17,204	12,439	14,363	14,668	1,230	1,210	1,055	410	440	289	267	272
Fisheries	83%	81%	90%	91%	22,913	19,050	20,730	20,898	2,378	1,960	1,691	1,297	572	482	449	595
Environmental	69%	65%	62%	79%	743	671	744	812	163	192	265	138	42	52	23	28
Land Management	83%	80%	90%	91%	374	219	193	262	45	43	19	16	3	2	0	8
Mineral Exploration	93%	87%	86%	94%	212	23	76	103	15	2	11	5	0	1	0	1
Forestry	94%	75%	82%	86%	3,270	78	94	86	207	21	10	12	3	0	7	0

Source: Ministry of Environment, Compliance and Field Services Branch

Compliance with environmental laws and regulations is critical to ensuring that all people are held to the same standards in their use and enjoyment of the province's natural resources and to ensuring that our resources are available for future generations.

Compliance rates have generally improved in all sectors since 2009-10 which may be directly correlated with the Ministry of Environment's full suite of tools to encourage compliance with requirements established by law. There are three major components:

- *Education and awareness* activities that inform the public, stakeholders and industry on requirements and expectations. Education and awareness tools include brochures, posters, advertisements and press releases. Significant effort is invested in working with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, resort communities and the public at large to increase understanding and awareness of the environmental impact and damage associated with unauthorized shoreline alterations. Education and awareness efforts in 2011-12 included compliance information to liquid waste haulers, cottage owners and developers regarding the requirements when working along waterways or shorelines and information to rural municipalities on regulations related to work near water given the flood conditions experienced this year.
- *Compliance assurance* is achieved through permit and lease conditions, performance bonds and other economic instruments. Inspections are used to detect non-compliance at an early stage so that it can be corrected with minimal impact. The new results-based regulatory model will enhance these activities through the development of standards, best practices and the Saskatchewan Environmental Code to guide the public, resource users, stakeholders and industry.

- *Enforcement activities* can include surveillance, special investigations and intelligence analysis. Actions to address violations can range from arrests, seizures, court orders and prosecution to the use of alternative measures and innovative sentencing. Compliance rates have remained relatively stable over the past four years; however, the public is becoming more aware of violations under environmental regulations and are subsequently calling the Turn in Poacher (TIP) line more often to notify the Ministry of infractions. In 2011-12, approximately 12 per cent of TIP calls were about environmental infractions.

Government Goal: Securing Saskatchewan

Strategy - Prevent and reduce risks to the health of people and the environment

Key Actions & Results

Continue the aerial fleet renewal plan and remaining infrastructure projects.

- The Phase II conversion of four CL215 tanker aircraft to turbine-engine CL215Ts, to improve the safety, reliability and effectiveness of the fleet, continued on time and on budget. Two of four CL215 conversions are complete, one is in progress, and the remaining aircraft is scheduled to be delivered to the installer in the fall of 2012. (2010 Mandate Letter)
- An estimated \$2.6 million was invested by the province through the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure for improvements at the Hudson Bay Airport. The airport's runway is now able to accommodate the Convair 580 aircraft, which carries fire suppressant retardant, and the smaller bird dog aircraft.
- All capital infrastructure projects are on track and within budget. The construction of the fire cache/storage facility at the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park Fire Base is complete and the office facility is operational. The Southend Fire Base site plan and design for an office facility, fire cache/storage facility and associated infrastructure have been completed. A new bunk house is operational at the Buffalo Narrows Fire Base and another is nearing completion at the Dorintosh Fire Base. Besides accommodating Ministry staff, the increased availability of living quarters assists the wildfire management program in hiring Saskatchewan youth for summer employment.

Work with local governments, northern residents and stakeholders and provide education and support to enable them to understand, and take responsibility to protect themselves from, the risks of wildfires.

- The Saskatchewan Resource Ranger Program had 58 graduates in 2011-12 from five communities (Beardy's & Okemasis, Pelican Narrows, Stanley Mission, La Ronge and Prince Albert) who now have basic fire training certification, along with a greater understanding of wildfire. This increases opportunities for young people from the north to enter into environmental jobs.

- The application of FireSmart principles and a long-term approach to community wildfire protection projects has reduced the risk from wildfire for communities and industry. The Ministry completed FireSmart assessments in 2011-12 for: the communities of Candle Lake, Hudson Bay and the resort of Pruden's Point; the Golden Band Resources Inc.'s Komis, Jolu, and Roy Lloyd mines; the Pine Grove Correctional facility and Young Offenders residence; and two subdivision developments (used as conditions for approval by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs). As a result of the FireSmart assessments all of these sites are, or will be, carrying out mitigation work to protect them against wildfires. FireSmart principles will also be used in the development of the Forest Management Agreement for the Island Forests.

The Ministry of Environment and Western Economic Diversification Canada received approval from the Napatak community for additional fuel management work that was completed by March 31, 2012.

- Wildfire awareness and education continued to be delivered by the Ministry. The Smokey Bear Program was presented at 31 schools and 21 summer locations in 2011-12 and provided important messages to students and the public on wildfire safety and fire's role in the ecosystem. The Nisbet Fire Case Study document is available online.

(2010 Mandate Letter)

Work with the federal and other provincial and territorial governments on advancing air quality management across the nation through the new National Air Quality Management System.

- The proposed national Air Quality Management System (AQMS) is designed to address the challenges of air quality management, including cross-jurisdictional issues, and deliver a Canada-wide approach that provides flexibility to deal with regional differences in air quality issues. At the same time, it will provide a consistent approach so that Canadians can be assured of good air quality outcomes. Saskatchewan is an active participant in the process. Most of the major elements of the AQMS have been developed, including: updated Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate matter and ozone; an Air Zone Delineation Guideline Document; and various Base-level Industrial Emission Requirements for the electricity, oil sands, petroleum refining and upstream oil and gas sectors. Development of the AQMS

has included the engagement of expert stakeholders across the country to design a comprehensive and consistent air quality management regulatory approach for Canada.

Implement the Province's airshed management program in conjunction with the new national Airshed and Air Zone Management program by working to establish the Saskatoon-Lloydminster Airzone monitoring network.

- The establishment of airshed associations allows for a consensus-based collaboration of provincial/federal governments, communities, industry, academia and environmental organizations to collect credible, scientifically-defensible air quality data and to make that data available to the public. Saskatchewan's first air zone, the Southeast Saskatchewan Airshed Association (SESAA) set up a second continuous air monitoring station near Glen Ewen in March 2012. The province's second air zone, the Western Yellowhead Air Management Zone (WYAMZ) in the Lloydminster-Saskatoon region, was legally incorporated as a non-profit organization in February 2012. An initial six-month passive monitoring program was completed and a continuous air monitoring station was set up in North Battleford in March 2012.
- As part of the development of the national Air Quality Management System, Saskatchewan led the preparation of the Guidance Document on Air Zone Management for delineating air zones in provinces and territories. The document has been finalized and is expected to be published in 2012-13.

Work with communities and applicable industries to ensure safe drinking water; water and wastewater infrastructure capacity and capability; and the maintenance of drinking water quality standards by:

- monitoring and following-up on drinking water quality testing results to ensure compliance with standards;
- working with affected communities to ensure the assessment of wastewater effluent is conducted in a timely manner;
- working with ministries and agencies to advance water and wastewater related infrastructure planning and improvements; and
- working with waterworks owners to evaluate waterworks infrastructure through the second round of waterworks system assessments

- The Ministry continues to review the results of routine water quality monitoring for a variety of microbial, chemical, pesticide and radiological water quality parameters. In 2011-12, the Ministry received 35,323 samples related to drinking water quality monitoring requirements. Compliance with bacteriological and disinfection water quality standards combined was 94.9 per cent, comparable with compliance for 2010-11 when the standards compliance was 96.1%. Further information on water quality results can be found in the annual *State of Drinking Water Quality in Saskatchewan* report. Additional information on drinking water quality and wastewater management and compliance activities is available on the SaskH2O website at www.SaskH2O.ca.
- During 2011-12, the Municipal Branch of the Ministry of Environment undertook one-year sampling and research studies to evaluate the treated effluent at 91 municipal sewage works that are affected by the Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment (CCME) Municipal Wastewater Effluent Strategy. The studies were also designed to determine the impact of effluent discharges on fish-bearing surface water and help municipalities in establishing site-specific Effluent Discharge Objectives. 10 per cent of the sampled communities failed with respect to acute toxicity requirements. Repeat sampling will continue in 2012-13 for these communities. This information will be of direct benefit to municipalities in understanding and, where necessary, planning for upgrading their sewage works in accordance with the Municipal Wastewater Effluent Strategy and pending federal Wastewater System Effluent Regulation requirements.
- A Parallel Growth Policy, implemented by the Ministry of Environment in 2011-12, will facilitate the growth of communities with sustainable water and wastewater while ensuring the protection of human health and the environment.
- The Ministry of Environment continued to implement round two of Waterworks System Assessments for certain municipal and privately owned waterworks in the province still required to perform assessments. The current standards for waterworks system assessments are at www.SaskH2O.ca/DWBinder/EPB233WaterworksSystemAssessmentStandards.pdf. As of March 31, 2012, 122 of 280 required waterworks system assessments had been received and reviewed. These reports have

continually proven to be an effective way to track and understand the state of drinking water infrastructure in the province. Ministry staff will continue to seek full compliance with Waterworks System Assessment reporting in 2012-13.

(2007 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Encourage the development or use of regional water or wastewater infrastructure to make more effective use of funding.

- Recently implemented guidance for water and wastewater systems at subdivisions, the Parallel Growth Policy and work on buffer zone requirements, coupled with the development of a Saskatchewan Environmental Code chapter on Liquid Domestic Waste Disposal, have collectively encouraged the use of or conversion to regional infrastructure systems. These products will help to ensure the provision of safe and sustainable water supplies and wastewater management systems in the future.

Work with communities to achieve proper water quality standards, including trace element, biological, radiological and pesticide related water as stated in *The Water Regulations*.

- Work continues to promote full compliance with drinking water quality standards by regulated community waterworks. The Ministry works with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, the Ministry of Health and the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority to ensure coordinated activities and support. The Ministry continues to track compliance with standards and works with communities to achieve compliance. As of March 31, 2012, 81 community waterworks had yet to achieve compliance with standards. Of the 81 waterworks, 64 have upgrades underway and/or have received infrastructure upgrade funding. Another seven may be suitable for hygienic classification and 10 may find resolution through improvements in water treatment operations. Water quality standards not yet attained include turbidity, trihalomethanes, trace metals (arsenic, uranium) and certain other substances (selenium, fluoride). Since fall 2011, 12 communities have made considerable progress on bringing water treatment plant improvements to completion, although work was not fully completed at the end of fiscal year 2011-12.

Communities continue to progress towards improving drinking water quality. In some cases, progress has been delayed by a lack of prior planning and budgeting, as well as the complete allocation of funding programs such as the Canada-Saskatchewan Building Canada Fund – Communities Component. The Ministry will continue to encourage communities to comply with drinking water quality standards in 2012-13.

(2007 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Continue safe drinking water related programming delivery including water and wastewater system inspections; reviewing waterworks related projects; and responding to drinking water related emergencies which may pose a threat to public health.

- The reliability of Ministry of Environment regulated waterworks was evaluated and monitored through inspection and follow-up of upset reporting. A total of 910 waterworks inspections and 554 sewage works inspections were conducted in 2011-12. As of March 31, 2012, there were 76 Precautionary Drinking Water Advisories (PDWA) and two Emergency Boil Water Orders (EBWO) in effect for Ministry-regulated waterworks. For 2011-12, a total of 393 PDWA and eight EBWO were issued. The Ministry is cooperating with other ministries and agencies, as well as regional watershed protection groups, to improve water protection efforts.
- At industrial operations, 19 inspections of potable waterworks occurred in 2011-12. The information and education provided by Ministry staff during inspections resulted in improved reporting and compliance by water operators. All incidents where water quality could have been compromised were reported by clients to the Ministry.

(2007 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Expand solid waste management and recycling programs by implementing the provincial strategy for municipal solid waste management and Multi-Material Recycling Program.

- Work continued on the development of a provincial strategy for municipal solid waste management. The Multi-Material Recycling Program (MMRP) regulations are in the drafting phase and consultations are ongoing; however, passage of the regulations is not

anticipated until later in 2012.

- Preliminary consultations were held with industry stewards for agricultural plastics and a report was prepared by CleanFarms summarizing the results of the consultation. Draft regulatory content has been written to require stewards to develop a product management program for the collection and recycling of waste agricultural plastics. The results of the consultation and draft regulatory content will provide the framework to move forward on a more comprehensive consultation on the proposed program and the development of a stewardship-based program for agricultural plastics.
- SARCAN Recycling and the Ministry concluded negotiations in 2011-12 for a four-year contract to operate the beverage container collection and recycling system, with a ceremonial signing in April 2012 at the grand opening of SARCAN's Rochdale Boulevard depot in Regina. The contract will bring stability to financial planning for SARCAN and will allow SARCAN more autonomy in prioritizing infrastructure development and replacement.
- The Ministry and Communities of Tomorrow have funded a Pre-Engineering and Feasibility Study by the University of Saskatchewan in the planning for a demonstration project called "Sustainable Landfill with Passive Leachate Biofiltration." The study was initiated in 2011 and will be completed June 2012. The requirements of the new Landfill Chapter of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code will eventually require many communities to collect and treat leachate from their landfills, which may be a challenge for some smaller and/or remote communities. An opportunity exists to solve this problem simply, because biological processes that naturally occur in the drainage system of landfills can remove organic carbon and other contaminants from the leachate. The Pre-Engineering and Feasibility Study will supply a proof of concept and cost estimates for the demonstration project, and ultimately, small to medium landfill construction. Based on this demonstration project, owners, operators, engineers and regulators will be positioned to build and operate more cost-effective landfills.

(2010 Throne Speech, 2010 Mandate Letter)

Work with the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment to research and develop innovative solutions to packaging of goods.

- The Ministry continues to participate in the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) task group. Through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME), a Canada-wide Action Plan for EPR commits the provinces to work towards the development of recycling programs for priority products. During 2011-12, the CCME-Industry Task Group on Packaging Reduction produced a final report on the development of a Canada-wide approach for packaging reduction. The report outlines commitments that industry is prepared to undertake to further reduce packaging and also provides recommendations for future collaboration between industry and government. The Task Group's final report specifically identified the following industry commitments that will result in reduced packaging (i.e., less packaging to landfill, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and increased recycled content in packaging): establish a baseline by 2014 to measure how much packaging is in the marketplace to enable industry and government to proceed with discussions on targets; facilitate the development and implementation of a national voluntary design guide by March 31, 2013; continue efforts to eliminate the use of PVC in rigid plastic packaging; and, enhance communication with Canadians regarding industry successes in packaging reduction.

Develop and implement a scientifically credible and defensible program to monitor and manage cumulative environmental impacts.

- Cumulative effects assessment and management (CEAM) is the processes of systematically assessing impacts resulting from incremental, accumulating and interacting stressors, and setting and achieving landscape-scale objectives in the context of multiple activities and competing values, interests and priorities. Cumulative impacts are generally thought of as environmental (such as the effect of multiple stressors in time and space on water quality and quantity), but also include social and economic impacts. CEAM aims to: address challenges relating to highly complex environmental, social and economic risks and issues; determine perceived risks, pressures and impacts; determine how policy and management practices can influence environmental, social and economic components; inform risk assessment through monitoring of valued components; and identify gaps in data availability and quality.

In 2011-12, The Ministry collaborated with the University of Saskatchewan to develop a jurisdictional scan, literature review and Ministry survey focused on cumulative effects management that will be used to formulate a cumulative effects management framework for the Ministry. This framework will continue to be developed in 2012-13, and will guide an integrated monitoring program involving cumulative effects monitoring, assessment and adaptive management.

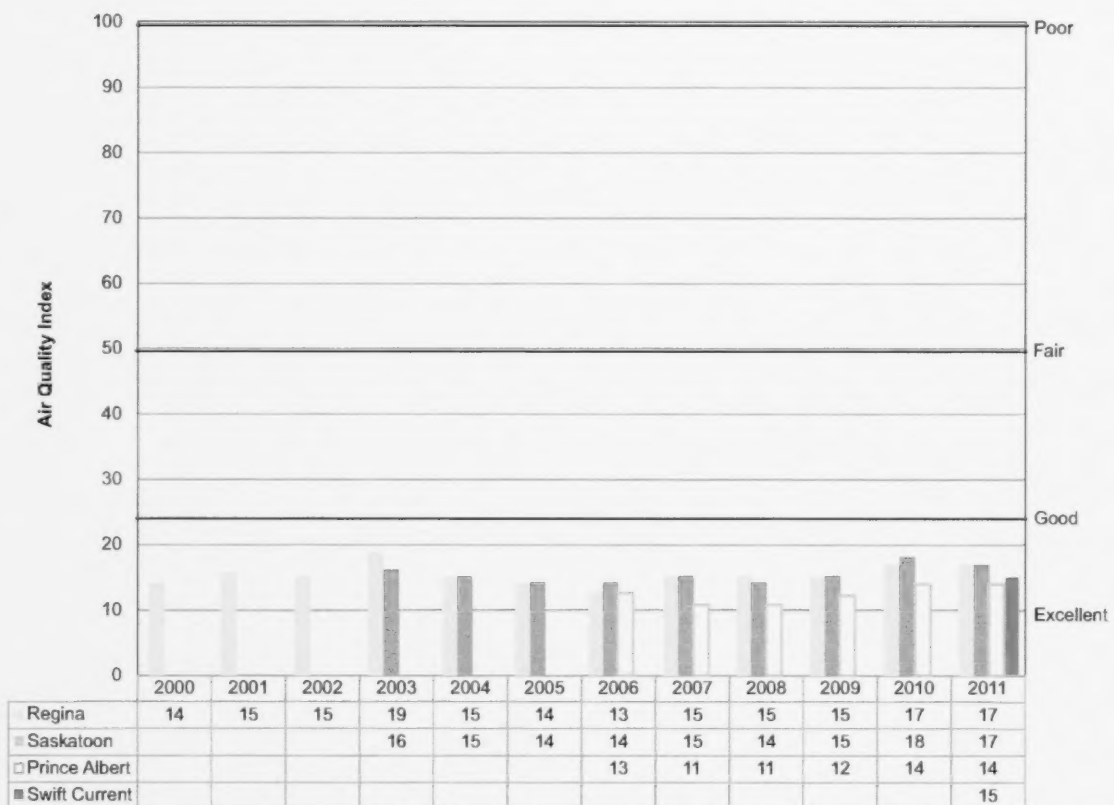
Other Key Actions & Results

Monitor air quality to ensure clean air is maintained across the province.

- The Ministry continues to operate a provincial network of air monitoring stations and a mobile air monitoring laboratory. In 2011-12, the Ministry recorded over 225,000 readings at five air stations, surveyed 13 sites using the mobile Saskatchewan Air Monitoring Laboratory, and collected over 200 passive air monitoring samples. The air quality measurements were in compliance with Saskatchewan's Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Performance Measures & Results

Air Quality Index



Source: Ministry of Environment, Technical Resources Branch (also available at www.environment.gov.sk.ca/airqualityindex)

The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a communication tool designed to describe the general air quality in urban areas by transforming ambient measurements of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, carbon monoxide and particulates into a single number and descriptive term that represents the air quality. The index is also used to monitor long-term trends in air quality.

Measuring and evaluating urban air quality is an important step in meeting the Ministry's objective of ensuring clean air and is fully aligned with the Ministry's strategy to prevent and reduce risks to the health of people and the environment. This measure is an essential tool to monitor air quality trends and a basis for making rough comparisons of air quality between urban areas.

Saskatchewan's overall approach to managing air quality is through: permits issued pursuant to *The Clean Air Act / Regulations* and *The Potash Refining Air Emissions Regulations*; the environmental assessment process; air quality monitoring and reporting; ambient air quality standards; air dispersion modeling; airshed management; compliance and enforcement; and information and research.

The Ministry has established air monitoring stations in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert and, most recently, Swift Current (the Swift Current AQI is reported here for the first time). The Ministry recently relocated its air monitoring station in La Loche to Buffalo Narrows to better measure long-

range acidic compounds in the atmosphere. The Ministry also set up a new air monitoring station in North Battleford in March 2012. The AQIs for Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Swift Current have consistently rated as good to excellent and there has been a relatively stable trend in this measure. The AQI for Buffalo Narrows and North Battleford will be assessed once sufficient data is available.

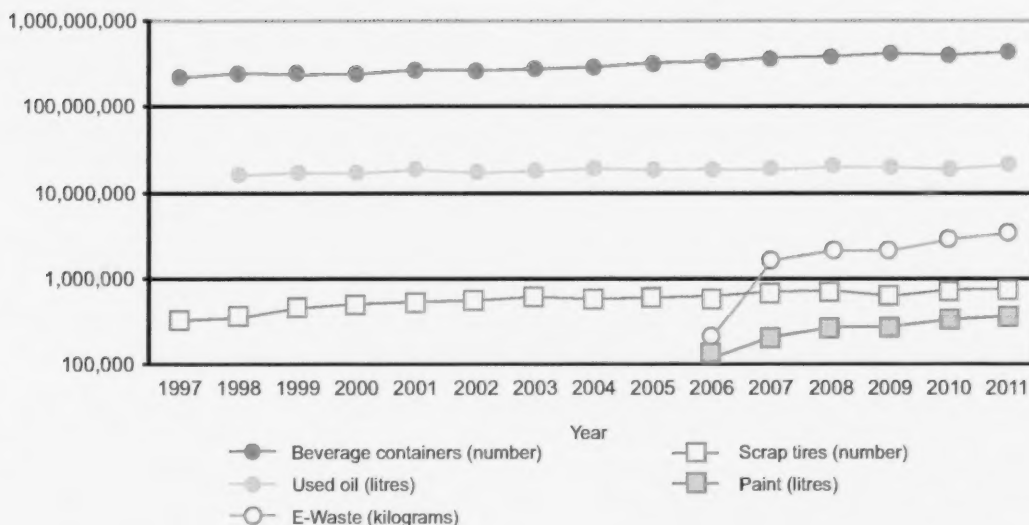
The graph on the previous page provides the AQI for those stations that are a part of the National Air Pollution Surveillance Program; however, data for all sites is available at:

www.environment.gov.sk.ca/airqualityindex.

The Ministry will continue using the AQI to rank the province's air quality as a tool in protecting the health of people and the environment from potential degraded air quality. However, provinces within Canada are making the transition to the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI), which has a greater focus on human health rather than environmental concerns. The Ministry will be conducting a pilot study in 2012-13 to compare both indexes and will review the data after one year.

The key risks to the AQI reported at the stations comes from both natural sources (such as forest fires) and from human-caused sources (such as open burning or air contaminants from industrial sources).

Recycling rates



Sources: Third Party Organizations Annual Reports, Saskatchewan Waste Electronic Equipment Program

Notes: Beverage containers, paint and e-waste are based on a fiscal year. The fiscal year 2008-09 is represented by 2009. All other data is based on a calendar year.

Recycling is an indicator of public commitment to waste minimization and indicates shared responsibility for environmental stewardship. The Ministry administers the enabling regulations for four industry-led stewardship programs and oversees a fifth program, the Beverage Container Collection and Recycling System, through a contract with SARCAN. The recycling indicators report on the actions of the Ministry of Environment and stewardship programs in preventing and reducing risks to the health of people and the environment, and key actions related to expanding solid waste management and recycling programs. 2011-12 was another productive year for recycling in the province, where product capture rates increased for all but one program.

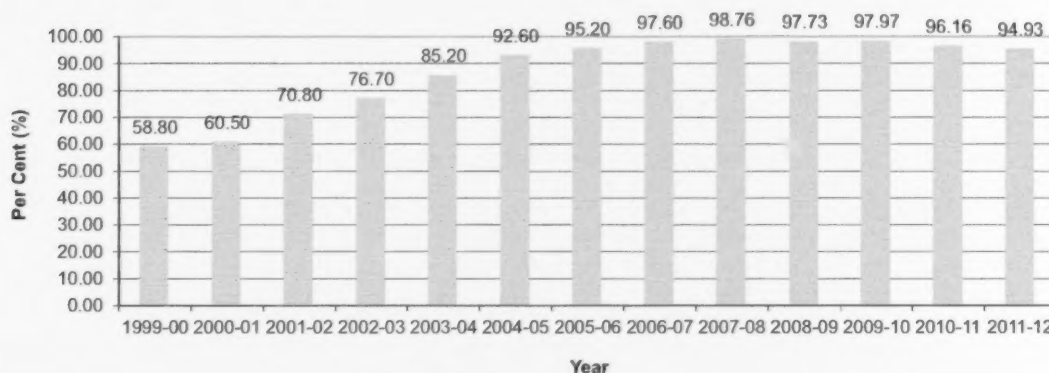
Market conditions, public commitment and good stewardship practices determine the recycling rates. Excluding refillable beer bottles, over 87 per cent of all deposit beverage containers sold in Saskatchewan are recycled, which makes this one of the highest return rates of all beverage container programs in Canada. As of April 2011, SARCAN had recycled five billion containers. The

Ministry continues to promote recycling as a means to increase the recycling rates. The expansion of waste electronic products collected from the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sector as well as the Ministry's efforts to develop a Multi-Material Recycling Program and Agricultural Plastics Recycling Program are expected to increase recycling rates in the future. As it was, e-waste collections rose 21 per cent from the previous record year in 2010.

The number of scrap tires captured declined fractionally by one per cent from the previous year, while used oil continued its upward rise by eight per cent from 2010. The Saskatchewan Paint Stewardship Program again saw an increase, growing collections by almost six per cent.

Key risks to achieving the measure include market conditions (such as the value of recyclable materials and access to purchasers of recyclable materials), sufficient funding sources for recycling programs and sufficient public commitment (as illustrated through participation in recycling efforts and support for recycling fees and levies).

Drinking Water Quality Standards Compliance



Source: Ministry of Environment, Municipal Branch; SEEMS Database

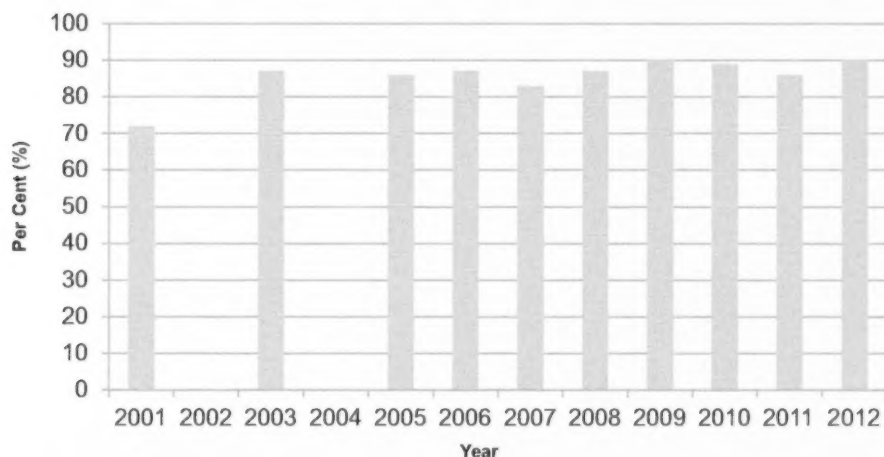
The drinking water quality compliance indicator is an average of compliance with disinfection and bacteriological standards, both of which measure compliance with drinking water quality standards. This indicator looks at both the results of bacteriological water quality monitoring and the level of disinfectant present in drinking water and is a good predictor of the safety of drinking water. Compliance with drinking water quality standards for disinfection and bacteriological quality is important as microbial contamination in water supplies can quickly result in significant illness. Proper disinfection is an important way to ensure safe drinking water and prevent the outbreak of waterborne diseases. The indicator reports on the actions of the Ministry in addressing risks to the health of people and the environment and key actions related to ensuring safe and sustainable drinking water. The accuracy of this indicator is fully dependent on accurate testing and reporting by regulated waterworks operators.

The drinking water quality compliance indicator has been very good for the past few years and has remained relatively stable; with an average compliance rate of 97 per cent for the past five

years, above the 10 year average of 93 per cent. The Ministry will continue to reinforce the need to comply with disinfection requirements and proper reporting of disinfection values in 2012-13 and beyond to ensure increased awareness. Ongoing inspection and education awareness initiatives with waterworks owners and operators are planned to sustain good performance in achieving water that is safe from bacteriological threats and meets disinfection standards.

Key risks to achieving this measure include an inability of waterworks owners or operators to comply with standards and operator certification requirements (such as a lack of staff, understanding, overall planning capacity or financial resources), catastrophic events that effect drinking water quality (such as major flooding or equipment failure) and new/evolving standards that change the base requirements.

Drinking Water Quality Satisfaction



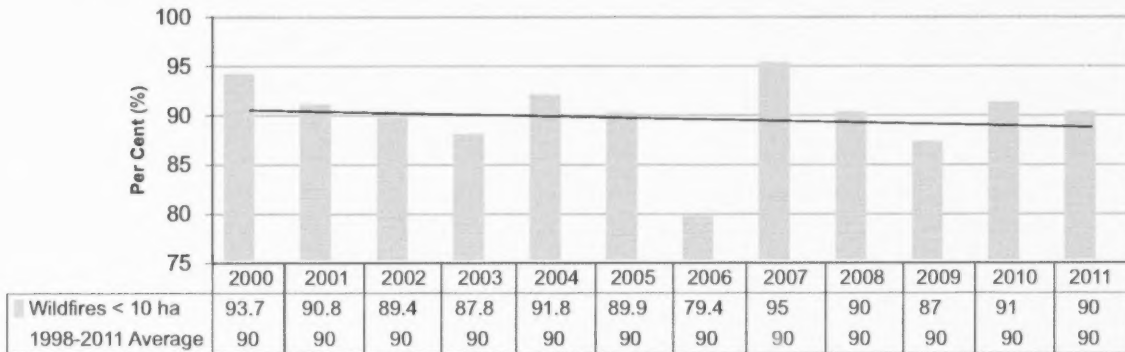
Source: Ministry of Environment Polling Results, May 2012

The Drinking Water Quality Satisfaction indicator is based on the results of annual polling of Saskatchewan residents on their level of confidence in the quality of their drinking water supply. The measure is the percentage of survey respondents who indicated that they are very or somewhat confident in the quality of their tap water. This indicator reflects upon the success of the Ministry in advancing safe drinking water at supplies across the province including municipalities, pipelines and large commercial water systems.

The drinking water quality satisfaction indicator has been greater than 80 per cent since 2003. Based on a May 2012 poll, conducted by the Ministry of Environment, 89.7 per cent of people strongly agreed or agreed that they are confident in the safety of their drinking water. An increase of 4.2 per cent from 2011 to 2012 may be related to the protective efforts undertaken in response to waterworks upsets in communities such as Prince Albert in March 2012. The importance of drinking water quality and public opinions of water quality in the province has been recognized by the Ministry and will continue to be closely monitored. Ongoing attention to actions such as consumer education efforts, waterworks inspections, media coverage of water contamination events affecting larger centres, implementation of water quality standards, water workshops and consumer notification will help to maintain a high level of public confidence in the safety of drinking water in the future.

Key risks to achieving this measure include: lack of public knowledge about the effectiveness of drinking water quality compliance requirements and efforts; major climatic events that impact base water quality and quantity (such as sustained droughts or major flooding); and upsets or significant problems at a waterworks for a major centre in or beyond the province that may influence the confidence of a significant portion of the population in Saskatchewan. There is also some risk in how the survey is constructed (for instance, the order in which questions are asked and the possibility that other topics covered in the survey might influence the respondents' answers).

Containment of Wildfires in the Full Response Zone (FRZ) to 10 Hectares or Less - 2000-2011



Source: Ministry of Environment, Wildfire Management Branch

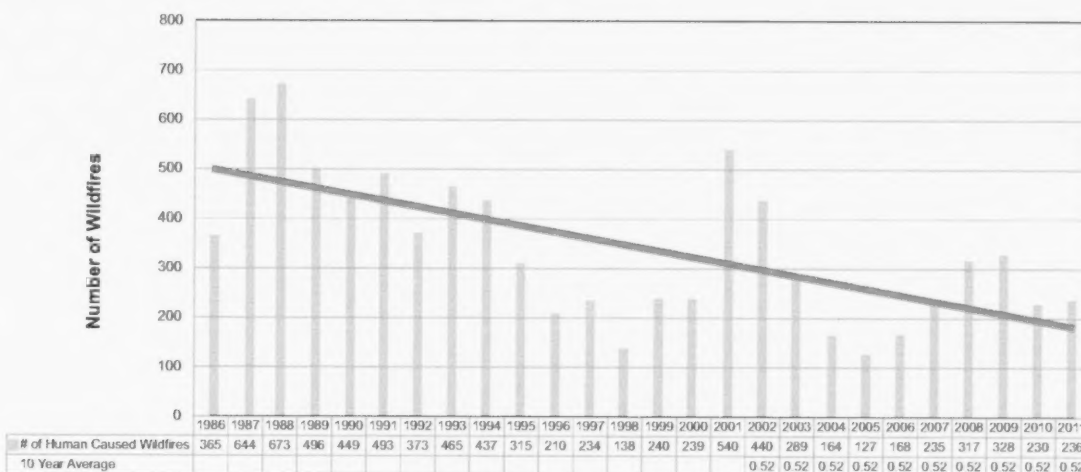
The percentage of contained wildfires is a measure of how well the pre-planning, detection and initial attack components of the firefighting program are working. Containing smaller wildfires minimizes the number of communities threatened by wildfire, as well as reduces the area burned and the costs associated with wildfire suppression. Containment of wildfires to under 10 hectares has a direct positive bearing on the number of escaped wildfires and consequently on the overall cost of suppression.

The percentage of wildfires contained to 10 ha or less in the Full Response Zone in 2011 was 90 per cent, which is in line with the ten-year average of 90 per cent (the target is 90-94 per cent). There

were 303 wildfires in 2011. Of those, 236 occurred in the Full Response Zone and 208 of those were contained to less than 10 hectares. The performance measure for operational success in the Full Response Zone does not include all wildfires 10 hectares or less; it only includes those for which the Ministry has operational control for initial attack.

Containment ability relates directly to operational preparedness (placement of resources throughout the Full Response Zone in anticipation of wildfire starts) and the ability to divert resources to suppress new wildfire starts while under pressure to contain large wildfires and successfully protect values at risk.

Human-Caused Wildfires



Source: Ministry of Environment, Wildfire Management Branch

The Ministry of Environment's wildfire education and awareness efforts are designed to reduce the percentage of human-caused wildfires by encouraging individuals to recognize their responsibility for mitigating the risk of wildfire around communities, industrial sites and recreational leases. This is done by providing people with the information that they need to be aware of the risks of starting a wildfire and using fire safely. Increasing this awareness is intended to reduce the percentage of human-caused fires, which typically occur closer to communities and resort properties, where more people are located. The Ministry continues to focus effort on education in northern communities.

Historically, the number of human-caused wildfires has been just over 50 per cent of the total number of wildfires actioned in any year. A historical performance measure was to reduce the percentage of human-caused wildfires by five per cent per year down to a target of 40 per cent per year overall. There are some recognized challenges with this measure. Presently, human-caused wildfire statistics includes: restarts; a large percentage of wildfires coded to "unknown" causes; and vehicle and industrial fires. These cause difficulties in utilizing historic and current information for analysis. The Ministry continues to work towards better information gathering techniques to analyze data and incorporate the results into future planning for reducing human-caused wildfires. In 2011, human-caused wildfires were 79 per cent of all starts across the province. As a percentage of total wildfires, this is greatly

increased from the ten-year average of 52 per cent, largely due to weather conditions that resulted in human-caused fire starts, but did not produce lightning in areas that historically have numerous lightning caused wildfires.

Evaluating the increase or decline of human-caused wildfires as a performance metric is difficult. How does one measure how many wildfires did not occur due to the prevention, education and mitigation programs administered by the Ministry? To get the full story on the impact of human-caused wildfires in Saskatchewan, one must look at the long-term trends, which show that human-caused wildfires have decreased overall. Although 79 per cent of the wildfire starts in 2011 were human-caused, there were 239 human-caused wildfires, below the 10-year (254), 20-year (286) and 25-year (339) averages. This trend follows the general trend in reduction of other wildfires and is a reflection of the work undertaken by the Ministry to reduce wildfires through community wildfire protection projects, FireSmart initiatives and compliance/enforcement programs.

Strategy - Maintain healthy air, land, water and ecosystems that support native biological diversity

Key Actions & Results

Monitor the new provincial fisheries management plan to ensure sustainable use of resources.

- Modifications to angler limits, fixed season dates and opening stocked trout waters to year-round fishing were implemented in 2011-12. Fisheries regulations were amended in August 2011 to provide greater protection against aquatic invasive species. These actions provide greater opportunity for anglers, more understandable regulations and help to maintain a high quality, sustainable fishery. (2007 Throne Speech, 2007 Mandate Letter)

Implement a new acid deposition management framework to manage the impacts of acid deposition.

- In May 2011, the Ministry of Environment signed the *Saskatchewan-Alberta Memorandum of Understanding on Data Sharing and Monitoring Cooperation* with Alberta Environment to collaborate on air modeling techniques and regional plans for emission thresholds. As part of an established joint work plan, an air dispersion model for Alberta and Saskatchewan has been completed for 2006, with a model for 2020 being developed. New monitors have been deployed using wet and dry deposition samplers at 11 locations in Saskatchewan to identify potential acid deposition.

Oversee clean-up of priority contaminated sites by:

- **continuing to evaluate contaminated sites as they are identified; and**
- **monitoring progress at facilities undergoing remediation including sites in Kamsack, River Landing and Magnum Oil.**
- The Industrial Branch of the Ministry of Environment reviewed and processed 299 new submissions related to impacted site activities, including site assessment reports, corrective action plan applications and impacted site closure reports. The branch also reviewed 127 sites as a result of requests for information to facilitate property transfers that may have been impacted. To

track sites and the progress towards reclaiming sites, the development of the Impacted Sites Information System database continues with User Acceptance Testing and the system nears the "production" stage. The development and testing process has allowed for consideration of new processes that link to requirements of the impacted sites chapters of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code.

Processing time of all new applications, permissions and information requests has been reduced from an average of 45 days to 22 days. Many of the efficiencies that were identified and implemented as a result of the Lean project undertaken for Hazardous Materials Storage Construction Approvals are applicable to the processing of impacted site submissions.

- The Ministry continues to monitor progress at facilities that are undergoing remediation activities. Inspections conducted by Ministry staff at the identified legacy impacted site remediation projects indicated that progress continues to be achieved, with no compliance issues observed during inspections. At the NPR Kamsack project, staff have been working with the Town of Kamsack to rezone the portion of the property that has been cleaned up to allow for redevelopment. Work on the remaining impacts continues. The River Landing project in Saskatoon is anticipated to be concluded within the next 12 to 24 months. Work at the former Magnum Oil site continues to progress. Risks are currently effectively managed and a number of areas on the site have already been addressed.

Continue to monitor non-uranium abandoned mine sites to identify and minimize or eliminate public safety hazards.

- An evaluation of outstanding public safety and environmental impacts was initiated, based on the National Classification System for Contaminated Sites score, to identify environmental liabilities and public safety hazards at abandoned mines. Evaluation is expected to be completed in 2012 so that any site assessment gaps can be identified, budgeted for and carried out prior to April 2014. Inspections were undertaken at three abandoned mines in 2011-12 to determine public safety issues. Site fencing was repaired at one location, shaft sealing was carried out at another location to remove that public safety hazard and no additional actions were required at the third location.

Develop and implement a new Saskatchewan Conservation and Sustainability Action Plan that builds on the existing plans and programs, fills the gap from previous plans, and re-engages government partners and external stakeholders.

- The Ministry of Environment continues to work on a proposed Saskatchewan Conservation and Sustainability Action Plan in relation to the Nagoya Protocol and the federal government's development of a national framework. A table of Saskatchewan initiatives was created in alignment with the *2011-2020 Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Aichi Target)* and a gap analysis as to Saskatchewan's current status has been established for future reference. The Ministry is also engaged with the development of a national framework to understand linkages with, and expectations of, Saskatchewan. The Ministry has determined a mechanism to achieve dual alignment with the Aichi Target and the national framework without compromising Saskatchewan's Conservation and Sustainability Action Plan approach. The Ministry is currently working with an inter-agency team to confirm cross-government actions in the plan, that includes the ministries of Parks, Tourism, Culture & Sport; Municipal Affairs; First Nations & Métis Relations; Agriculture; Energy & Resources; Highways and Infrastructure and the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, SaskPower and SaskEnergy. A public release of Saskatchewan's plan is anticipated in fall 2012. (2007 Throne Speech, 2007 Mandate Letter)

Develop a framework for regulation, development and allocation of Saskatchewan's water resources that supports focused comprehensive and strategic management of water and water-related activity.

- The Ministry of Environment has undertaken a stakeholder engagement and consultation exercise to inform the development of a policy framework which will be released for further consultation in 2012. (2008 and 2009 Throne Speech, 2010 Mandate Letter)

Work with stakeholders and partners to develop a Boreal Water Management Strategy.

- Significant progress has been made in the Boreal Watershed Initiative, which was established in 2011-12 to assess and maintain the ecological integrity of Saskatchewan's northern watersheds. The Ministry of

Environment has been working with partners to address potential environmental concerns and to identify sustainable management practices in the region. The Ministry identified six priority areas: water resources; aquatic ecosystem health; air quality; soil quality; biodiversity; and Traditional Land Use and Knowledge. Program highlights for 2011-12, include:

- ▶ 227 northern lakes were sampled to identify variability in sensitivity to acidification;
- ▶ lake sediment studies were conducted to assess the effects of multiple stressors since pre-industrial times;
- ▶ 72 air quality samples and weekly wet deposition samples were collected to assess atmospheric deposition of acidic compounds;
- ▶ progress has been made in the development of satellite remote sensing tools for enhanced monitoring of water quality;
- ▶ soils were sampled at 110 locations to address the buffering capacity, an important parameter when assessing the sensitivity of water bodies to acids and other pollutants;
- ▶ a joint study, the Eastern Athabasca Regional Monitoring Program, is being conducted with Cameco and Areva on sampling for water quality, sediments, soils and traditional foods;
- ▶ inventories of historical monitoring and assessment data are being captured digitally, which will result in the development of a single indexed database, to make information readily available for decision making by the Ministry and also available to others; and
- ▶ First Nations and Metis expertise is being used to assist in the data collection and identification of sensitive traditional knowledge and information.

(2010 Throne Speech)

Strategy - Lead the government's response to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change

Key Actions & Results

Implement the policy and regulatory framework to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from large emitters and non-regulated sectors to deliver the provincial climate change plan.

- Draft regulations were prepared for *The Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Act*. The Baseline Emissions Level and Annual Return Chapter of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code was developed in consultation with industry and other stakeholders, to provide guidance to regulated emitters when establishing their baseline emission level and when submitting an annual return. Enactment of legislation and regulations will enable a Canada/Saskatchewan Equivalency Agreement to be negotiated on the federal coal-fired electricity regulations that achieves equal or better environmental outcomes than the federal regulatory framework, under provincial regulation.
- Flexible compliance mechanisms have been developed to enable regulated emitters to meet emission reduction obligations, while accommodating economic growth. These include: pre-certified investment credits for large scale, transformative technologies; recognition for early action credits for low-carbon investments during the 2004-2006 period; emission-intensive trade-exposed credits to maintain competitiveness of trade dependent industries such as steel, mining, and fertilizers; offset credits for activities that reduce or avoid GHG emissions in non-regulated sectors; and performance credits to recognize annual emission reductions beyond annual cap.

(2007, 2008 and 2009 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Design and implement the provincial offset system to enable regulated emitters to meet a portion of their compliance obligations and encourage non-regulated emitters to reduce emissions through performance agreements.

- The Ministry continued its work in establishing a provincial offset system, including protocols and an offset registry in partnership with the Canadian Standards Association. Six draft offset protocols are being developed to

establish Saskatchewan's offset system. This will enable large emitters to achieve their annual emission cap by purchasing offset credits from agricultural producers who practice zero till and other sustainable farming practices, and other non-regulated projects that reduce or avoid greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Expected completion is the fall of 2012.

- A performance agreement for reducing GHG emissions from flaring and venting at upstream oil and gas facilities was developed in partnership with the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and the Ministry of Energy and Resources. This will enhance GHG reporting by the oil and gas industry and establish emission reduction targets for this sector.

(2007, 2008 and 2009 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Implement a provincial adaptation blueprint in partnership with other ministries, industry groups and communities to address potential long-term impacts of climate change.

- The Ministry of Environment, in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, has coordinated development of a provincial adaptation policy framework to enhance the capacity of industry and communities to manage risks associated with extreme weather events and other long-term climate change impacts. Saskatchewan has also worked with the federal government and the other prairie province ministries under the Regional Adaptation Collaborative Framework to develop effective adaptation strategies that reduce the vulnerability of key sectors such as agriculture, forestry, infrastructure, and mining. (2007, 2008 and 2009 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter)

Strategy - Support the delivery of the province's Go Green Plan

Key Actions & Results

Administer the Go Green Fund to promote research and development of cost-effective environmental technologies and processes that support the following objectives:

- reduction or avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions;
- conservation of water supplies;
- biodiversity conservation;
- reduction of waste; and
- public education and awareness.
- The Government of Saskatchewan has committed over \$70 million since 2008 to the Go Green Fund for incentive programs, research and demonstration projects to promote the development and implementation of cost-effective environmental technologies that achieve real environmental outcomes. Of the total, close to \$13 million was provided to projects in 2011-12. In its continuing role as administrator of the Go Green Fund, the Ministry of Environment is overseeing diverse projects in support of the fund's objectives and outcomes; many of which are described as follows:
 - The Go Green Fund invested \$5 million for 2011-12 (\$21 million from 2008 to 2012) in projects that support the reduction or avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs), using low-carbon technologies. Examples of projects include:
 - ▶ The Aquestore project, a transportable, integrated suite of technologies for carbon dioxide (CO₂) storage in saline aquifers is designed to have the capacity to store 2,000 tonnes of CO₂/day. Collaboration is expected between the Aquestore project and SaskPower's Boundary Dam Carbon Capture project;
 - ▶ The Energy Efficiency for New Housing program provides incentives to Saskatchewan residents who are currently building or planning to build an energy efficient home that is either ENERGY STAR® qualified or R-2000 certified. As of March 31, 2012, the program has provided rebates to 1,567 homeowners for a total of \$1.9 million;
 - ▶ The Net Metering program provides rebates of up to \$35,000 to people who wish to install small, less than 100 kilowatt, wind, solar or other green power generation equipment and connect to the province's electricity system. As of March 31, 2012, the program has issued 292 rebates for a total of \$4.6 million. A total of 2,054 tonnes of GHG emissions was reduced as a result. The annualized reduction in GHG emissions due to this program is 1,300 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year;
 - ▶ The High Level Wind Turbine with Storage project is a multi-year agreement with the Saskatchewan Research Council to develop and demonstrate new wind turbine and energy storage technology. It's designed to produce 2,503 megawatts/hour of electricity and reduce GHG emissions in Saskatchewan by 1,844 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent annually. Annual revenue is expected to be \$230,000 in 2013-14, its first full year of operation.
- The Go Green Fund invested \$200,000 for 2011-12 (\$6.5 million from 2008 to 2012) in projects that support water quality and conservation of water supplies. Examples of projects include:
 - ▶ THREATS (The Healthy River Ecosystem Assessment System), an information management system to conduct cumulative effects assessment for Canadian watersheds including those in Saskatchewan, is developing advanced statistical techniques to detect changes in water quality;
 - ▶ The Low-Flow Toilet Replacement Rebate Program, designed to encourage Saskatchewan residents to conserve water, resulted in 47,496 toilets being replaced as of March 31, 2012. This reduced water consumption by over 2.5 billion litres and avoided more than 7,621 tonnes of CO₂ emissions.
- The Go Green Fund invested \$3.2 million for 2011-12 (\$3.5 million from 2008-2012) in projects that support biodiversity conservation. Examples of projects include:
 - ▶ The Landscape Connectivity and Biodiversity project, announced in March 2012, will develop a landscape connectivity model to identify high value biodiversity movement corridors. This will inform the purchase of new conservation lands and result in less habitat fragmentation. The model will be made

-
- available to conservation organizations to use in their land securement programs;
- ▶ The Boreal Watershed Initiative looks at identifying regional environmental responses to multiple land uses in the boreal region of northern Saskatchewan. The results will help form the scientific basis of measuring the sensitivity of ecosystems to development in the region (refer to the key action specific to this project on page 23 for further information).
 - The Go Green Fund invested \$3.3 million for 2011-12 (\$13.6 million from 2008 to 2012) in projects that support waste reduction. Examples of projects include:
 - ▶ Operational support funding provided to paper/cardboard recycling operations including: Association of Regional Waste Management Authorities of Saskatchewan; Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres; and Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association Municipal Recycling. Funding resulted in their members collecting 42,659 tonnes of paper and cardboard for recycling in 2011;
 - ▶ Capital funding to SARC for development and construction of a new SARCAN Recycling beverage container processing facility in Saskatoon, which began operations in October 2011.
 - The Go Green Fund invested \$23,000 for 2011-12 (\$288,000 from 2008 to 2012) in projects that support promoting education and public awareness of climate change and other priority environmental issues. The project funded for 2011-12:
 - ▶ The Native Plants in the Classroom project is an educational program to increase awareness and conservation about native plants by engaging kindergarten to grade 12 students in learning about the importance of native plants and the habitats that they need to survive. This will lead to more informed choices and behaviours by the leaders of the future, which will ultimately benefit the environment. The native plants that are grown in classrooms will be transplanted to designated areas to increase biodiversity.

(2007 and 2008 Throne Speech, 2007 and 2010 Mandate Letter

Government Goal: Keeping Promises

Strategy - Enhance co-operation among intergovernmental agencies in environmental and resource management

Key Actions & Results

Minimize duplication and maximize federal/provincial co-operation to ensure the environment is protected by continuing effective agreements with agencies and by entering into new agreements such as:

- **seeking to maximize regulatory cooperation regarding uranium mining and milling in Saskatchewan through a modernized Memorandum of Understanding with Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC);**
- **continuing discussions with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to complete and implement a Canada-Saskatchewan Fish Habitat Memorandum of Understanding to clarify respective roles and responsibilities to avoid duplication in managing applications, streamlining the approval processes, and enhance sharing of information; and**
- **participate in the review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act in order to minimize overlap and duplication in the environmental assessment process.**
- **A draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety is currently being considered to replace the existing 2003 administrative agreement. In the absence of a new MOU, the Ministry continues to work closely with CNSC on project-specific issues to maximize regulatory cooperation.**
- **The Ministry continued discussions with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to develop cooperative approaches with respect to fish habitat. An inter-agency committee was formed to clarify roles and responsibilities and to coordinate processes for approvals. The committee decided to use the Saskatchewan Environmental Code development process, as an alternative to a formal MOU, to standardize operational practices between the province and DFO.**

The objective is to reduce the amount of aquatic habitat permitting required for proponents working in or near fish habitat. For example, a coordinated, streamlined approach was taken in response to requests to repair damages to infrastructure caused by high water in 2011.

- **Discussions are ongoing with the federal government regarding proposed changes to *The Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and implications for the province. Ministry officials are currently reviewing the draft Canadian Environmental Assessment Act to determine how the efficiency of federal-provincial environmental assessment processes can be best achieved. In November 2011, Saskatchewan presented a number of recommendations to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development including reducing timelines, decreasing duplication, and improving environmental outcomes. In anticipation of the proposed legislative changes, the Ministry drafted an equivalency agreement with the federal government and CNSC. The equivalency agreement, once approved, will clarify the administrative process for carrying out environmental assessments. Consistent operational practices were also completed in draft for further review and discussion**

Strategy - Fulfill the duty to consult and work co-operatively with and increase involvement of First Nations and Métis people in environmental and resource management

Key Actions & Results

Develop a ministerial framework that facilitates the implementation of duty to consult, supports partnerships and relationships with First Nations and Métis people and communities, and respects rights of First Nations and Métis, including:

- **identifying strategic cross-ministry opportunities for capacity-development for First Nations and Métis;**
- **developing branch-specific directives for effective implementation of the consultation framework; and**
- **developing a First Nations and Métis Awareness Learning Program to support**

Ministry staff in the implementation of the duty to consult and build cooperative relationships with First Nations and Métis.

- In 2011-12, a work plan was finalized with Métis Nation-Saskatchewan for the development of the Métis Environmental Resource Management Committee (MERMAC), with funding approved through the Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations. MERMAC was established to provide a structured forum for the engagement of Métis people in the environment and resource management activities of the Ministry of Environment.
- Engagement with all Ministry of Environment branches has been initiated on the development of branch-specific directives for effective implementation of the provincial *Consultation Policy Framework*. The Environmental Assessment Branch directive has been completed to ensure duty to consult activities are consistently integrated into environmental assessment processes.
- As part of the Learning Strategy for Aboriginal Awareness that is integrated into the Public Service Commission Learning Plan, three regional Aboriginal Cultural Awareness sessions were delivered in 2011-12 with 60 Ministry staff completing the training. Session evaluations showed that 90 per cent of attendees reported being "very satisfied" with the sessions' contribution to their understanding of Aboriginal history and culture. Increased understanding enhances cultural sensitivity when interacting with Aboriginal clients and co-workers and improves working relationships with First Nation and Métis people.

(2010 Mandate Letter, 2011 Throne Speech)

Strategy - Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Ministry's programs and services so as to ensure the best use of public funds

Key Actions & Results

Enhance a client-focused culture that supports high quality service.

- The Client Service Office (CSO) launched the Ministry 1-800 inquiry line in March 2012. Key CSO services completed or in development include applicant assistance for

the Ministry's online application and permissions system, a Ministry knowledge base, and Ministry client service standards. Ministry branches have collaborated with CSO to develop knowledge base articles to support the CSO in fielding inquiries and in some cases have developed specific processes for handling inquiries. For example, the Industrial Branch has established a "one window" inquiry e-mail address and contact telephone number so that the timely escalation of inquiries can occur with minimal confusion. These services are facilitating better access to information for both clients and Ministry staff.

- The CSO also processes land disposition documents for the Ministry's Lands Branch and for the Parks Service of the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport. This has assisted lease holders to be in compliance with current lease conditions.
- The Environmental Assessment Branch has developed new proponent guidance documents related to the screening process, proposal development, duty to consult and development of terms of reference. New guidance documents were drafted to support the amendments to *The Environmental Assessment Act* and the shift to a results-based regulatory system. An updated website provides current content, facilitates understanding of the environmental assessment process and is easier to use. Staff training and development has allowed the Environmental Assessment Branch to establish centers of competencies of highly trained and multi-skilled specialists capable of delivering various sector reviews in a timely and efficient manner.

Implement a human resource plan to align the Ministry's workforce, culture and succession management to support the transition to results-based regulation.

- A new Workforce Plan has been developed. Work is underway on key initiatives such as the implementation of in-scope work plans, middle management talent inventory development, supervisory training development, employee orientation, recognition program, mentoring program, and a corporate learning and development strategy.

Continue to implement a management practice of assessment and continuous improvement to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

- Four Lean events were completed in 2011-12: Aviation Fuel Procurement and Payment; Hazardous Materials Storage Construction Approvals; Own-Use Timber Permits; and Petty Cash Accounts. These events identified a number of areas for improvement that are already resulting in savings in administrative and processing costs and reduced turn-around times for issuing approvals. For example, implementation of the quick wins identified for the Hazardous Materials Storage Construction Approvals Lean event has resulted in reducing turn-around times for issuing approvals from 45 to 22 days. Efficiencies identified and implemented as a result of this Lean project have also been incorporated into submissions of impacted sites applications and permissions, resulting in reduced cycle time for those activities as well.

Results were also realized in 2011-12 from past Lean events, such as Land Use Disposition Documentation and the Aviation Management Payment Process. The land disposition Lean event improved service to clients by reducing the time it takes to process a renewal or transfer of a land use disposition (permit, lease or licence). The Client Service Office is now processing land dispositions in the range of 1.5 to 2.5 months, down from 13 to 15 months. The target is one to two months to process dispositions for both the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport and the Ministry of Environment. In the aviation payment example, 94 per cent of invoices are now processed in 20 days or less, an improvement of 65 per cent compared to processing times prior to the Lean project.

The Environmental Assessment Branch has implemented improvements in 2011-12, identified in a previous Lean efficiency review of the environmental assessment process. These improvements will enable the branch to: reduce review time for environmental assessment screenings by 45 per cent; reduce the volume of non-development proposals submitted to the Branch by 30 to 40 per cent; reduce project costs for industry by removing delays in the process; reduce review time by shifting the focus from low-risk proposals to higher-risk proposals; and improve condition management of Ministerial Approvals by focusing on industry's commitments and obligations in the

environmental impact statement. Starting April 1, 2012, data will be collected to track processing times.

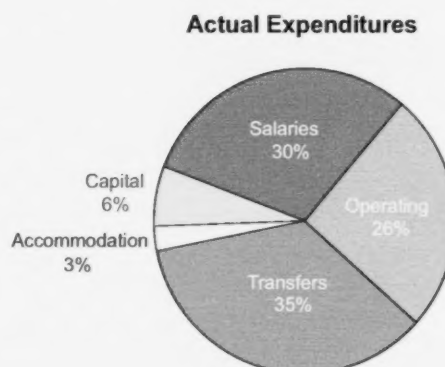
- The Ministry successfully negotiated and finalized with the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing a Shared Service Agreement for the Emergency Call Center (ECC) in Prince Albert to dispatch Ministry compliance officers. Work continues with the ministries of Finance and Highways & Infrastructure on an application to the Canadian Police Information Centre that will see the entire dispatch function for all government regulatory agencies transferred to the ECC.
- The Ministry of Environment undertook a major business transformation project in 2011-12 to identify priorities for moving towards results-based regulation delivery. Final deliverables have been approved for 11 participating branches. Implementation roadmaps have been completed that outline the activities identified by each branch as critical to implementing results-based regulation and continued client service improvement.

2011-12 Financial Overview

Expenditures

The Ministry's approved appropriation for 2011-12 was \$188.9 million, which included projected capital expenditures of \$15.1 million. The Ministry's total approved expense (excluding capital asset acquisitions) for 2011-12 was \$180.5 million, including an amortization expense of \$6.7 million. The total 2011-12 actual expenses were \$200.2 million, a variance of \$19.7 million from estimates. The over expenditure reflects the additional funding of \$33.9 million provided to the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority for flood relief activities. This over expenditure was partially offset by Ministry savings in Wildfire Management, Go Green and other vacancy savings.

The following chart illustrates the allocation of the Ministry's 2011-12 actual expenditures between the various cost categories.



The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram. Explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

	2010-11 Actual Expenditures	2011-12 Approved Estimates	2011-12 Actual Expenditures	2011-12 Variance
Subvote	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)
EN01 Central Management and Services				
Minister's Salary	45	45	45	-
Executive Management	1,452	1,602	1,540	(62)
Central Services	9,468	9,278	9,683	405
Accommodation Services	5,554	5,854	5,492	(362)
Subvote Total	16,519	16,779	16,760	(19)
EN06 Climate Change				
Green Initiatives	10,481	13,500	10,147	(3,353) ¹
Green Initiatives - SARCAN	4,600	1,800	1,800	-
Climate Change Program	981	1,030	616	(414) ²
Subvote Total	16,062	16,330	12,563	(3,767)
EN08 Compliance and Field Services	17,620	16,146	16,815	669
EN09 Forest Services				
Forest Programs	5,894	6,559	6,816	257
Reforestation	2,611	2,950	2,847	(103)
Insect and Disease Control	1,137	2,175	2,045	(130)
Subvote Total	9,642	11,684	11,708	24
EN10 Fire Management and Forest Protection				
Forest Fire Operations	56,753	57,546	48,812	(8,734) ³
Recoverable Fire Suppression Operations	723	1,400	1,529	129
Forest Fire Capital Projects	9,196	9,531	8,644	(887)
Subvote Total	66,672	68,477	58,985	(9,492)

	2010-11 Actual Expenditures	2011-12 Approved Estimates	2011-12 Actual Expenditures	2011-12 Variance
Subvote	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)
EN11 Environmental Protection				
Industrial	2,367	2,608	2,385	(223)
Municipal	4,153	4,405	4,378	(27)
Environmental Audit	9	647	3	(644) ⁴
Environmental Assessment	970	1,292	1,207	(85)
Beverage Container Collection and Recycling System	17,721	20,621	20,621	-
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Operations	4,414	4,414	4,414	-
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Flood Relief	45,015	-	33,860	33,860 ⁵
Subvote Total	74,649	33,987	66,868	32,881
EN15 Land	2,665	3,030	2,878	(152)
EN07 Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity				
Fish and Wildlife Program	4,848	5,300	3,672	(1628)
Fish and Wildlife Development Fund	3,622	3,804	4,997	1193
Subvote Total	8,470	9,104	8,669	(435)
EN14 Environmental Support				
Aboriginal Relations	778	872	681	(191)
Strategic Planning and Performance Improvement	517	1,126	520	(606) ⁶
Information Management and Geomatics	4,965	7,235	7,483	(248)
Client Services	716	1,136	1,047	(89)
Technical Resources	2,571	3,027	2,854	(173)
Subvote Total	9,547	13,396	12,585	(811)
Subtotal	221,846	188,933	207,831	18,898
Capital Assets Acquisitions	(14,139)	(15,101)	(13,197)	1,904
Capital Assets Amortization	6,300	6,707	6,709	2
Non-spending Control Items	(112)	-	(1,174)	(1,174) ⁷
Total Expense	213,895	180,539	200,169	19,630

Explanation of Variances:

- (1) Savings related to vacant positions, under expenditures on Go Green communications and Go Green projects that were not approved or which did not proceed.
- (2) Savings associated with vacant positions and operational under-expenditures.
- (3) Primarily due to low fire activity in 2011-12 but also includes savings associated with vacant positions, lower supplementary salary costs, and an increase in aircraft inventory at year end.
- (4) Vacancy and operational savings associated with a delay in implementing the environmental audit function in the Ministry.
- (5) Additional funding of \$33.86 million approved for flood mitigation activities.
- (6) Savings associated with vacant positions and operational under-expenditures.
- (7) Due to an increase in the year-end inventory of aircraft parts in Wildfire Management.

The following table describes actual funding provided to third parties in 2011-12:

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid (\$000s)
Association of Regional Waste Management Authority	Go Green Fund - Bridge funding for cardboard and paper recycling program	316
Beverly & Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board	Operating grant	15
Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre	Grant for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) research	10
Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment	Annual membership dues	32
Canada Green Building Council	Go Green Fund - Sponsorship for Saskatchewan Chapter of Canadian Green Building Council and the "Building Saskatchewan Green" conference	5
Central Flyway Council Inc.	Operational grant for Arctic goose banding and fall aerial survey work	5
Eat Healthy Foods	Go Green Fund - Grant to support a project aimed at reducing electrical use in grocery stores	28
Ecotech Research Ltd	Go Green Fund - Grant to support the "Application of Electromagnetic Techniques to Detect Water Pipe Leaks Quickly and Economically" project	8
Environment System Assessment Canada	Go Green Fund - To coordinate research and funding activities for a project on landscape connectivity and biodiversity	110
Environment System Assessment Canada	Go Green Fund - Held in trust by Grayson & Co. for Environment System Assessment Canada for the landscape connectivity and biodiversity project	2,000
Federation of Saskatchewan Indians Inc.	Grant to assist FSIN to build a more comprehensive understanding and awareness of climate change and adaptation with Saskatchewan First Nations	40
Fish and Wildlife Development Fund	Operating grant - 30 per cent of revenues collected by the province on certain angling and hunting licences issued	3,671
FPInnovations	Funding of research and development in silviculture operations	9
FPInnovations	Research and development program aimed at wildland fire suppression, protection and management	10
Fur Institute of Canada	Funding for trap research and development program, standard development, trapper education and public information programs	13
Ground Effects Environmental Services Inc.	Go Green Fund - Facilitate enhanced electrocoagulation for industrial wastewater reuse	40
Indigenous Visions Inc.	Sponsoring two students to participate in BEAHR Environmental Monitoring Training Program	15
Native Plant Society of Sask Inc.	Go Green Fund - Grant to develop resources and deliver the "Native Plants in the Classroom" educational program	12
Northern Saskatchewan Trappers Association Cooperative (NSTAC)	Grant for annual NSTAC convention	5
Partners for the Sask River Basin	Go Green Fund - Sponsorship for the Saskatchewan Envirothon 2012	5
Petroleum Technology Research Center	Go Green Fund - Deep Saline Aquifer Carbon Storage Project	750
Prairie Conservation Action Plan Office	Operating grant for "Saskatchewan Range and Riparian Health Assessment Framework" project	5

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid (\$000s)
Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centers	Go Green Fund - Bridge funding for cardboard and paper recycling program	786
Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centers	Go Green Fund - Grant to assist in construction of a new processing facility	1,800
Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centers	Go Green Fund - Operating grant for implementation of the beverage container collection and recycling program by SARCAN	20,621
Saskatchewan All Terrain Vehicle Association	Operational grant to promote responsible rider and user activities at organised ATV events	8
Saskatchewan Co-Operative Fisheries Ltd.	Operating grant	50
SaskEnergy Incorporated	Go Green Fund - Energy Efficiency Program for new housing	500
Saskatchewan Research Council	Go Green Fund - Net Metering Program	2,900
Saskatchewan Science Centre	Go Green Fund - Sponsorship for EECOM National Conference	5
Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association	Go Green Fund - Bridge funding for cardboard and paper recycling program	398
Saskatchewan Water Appeal Board	Operational grant	39
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority	Financial support to SWA that has a mandate to manage water supplies and protect source water quality	4,414
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority	Flood relief	33,860
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation	Sponsoring the provincial award banquet	5
South East Sask Airshed Association	Conditional grant for the purchase of additional continuous air monitoring equipment	49
University of Alberta	Grant for a study to document and examine the effects of site preparation, planting and tending (silviculture), estimate growth and yield of selected stands and examine linkages between survey data and future forest conditions	40
University of Alberta	Research for Western Boreal growth and yield	13
University of Regina	Grant to assist the scientific group to build a more comprehensive understanding of Cumulative Environmental Monitoring (CEM) tool	45
University of Regina	Grant for the purchase of a cutting edge spectrometer and accessories to support graduate students to carry out research	45
University of Saskatchewan	Operational funding for the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC)	41
University of Saskatchewan	Go Green Fund - Grant for the project "Impact of Air Quality on Respirator Public Health in Saskatchewan"	200
Wildlife Habitat	Operational grant	4
Western Yellowhead Air Management Zone Inc.	Go Green Fund - Grant to assist with start-up costs	49
Other (Individual grants less than \$4,000)		20
Minister of Finance of Alberta	To support the joint initiative to implement mountain pine beetle control to stop the spread into Saskatchewan	150
Total Grants		73,146

Revenues

The majority of the revenue collected by the Ministry of Environment relates to environmental handling charges, hunting and angling licence fees, forestry fees and dues and receipt from other governments for recoverable fire suppression costs. These revenues are collected on behalf of Government and all revenue collected is deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

The Ministry's budgeted revenue for 2011-12 was \$48.8 million; actual revenue recorded was \$52.2 million. This variance is the net effect of an increase in unredeemed bottle deposits, an increase in beverage container sales, an increase in the number of exports to other provinces and the United States for recoverable fire suppression costs and a decrease in real property sales.

Description of Revenue	2011-12 Budget (\$000s)	2011-12 Actual (\$000s)	Variance (\$000s)
Own-Source Revenue			
Other Licences and Permits	15,152	15,160	8
Sales, Services and Service Fees	23,319	23,473	154
Interest, Premiums, Discount and Exchange	40	19	(21)
Transfers from Other Governments	1,400	3,163	1,763
Other Revenue	5,309	6,985	1,676
Transfers from the Federal Government	3,541	3,355	(186)
Total Revenue Items	48,761	52,155	3,394
Non-Revenue Items	0	33	33
Total Revenue & Non-Revenue Items	48,761	52,188	3,427

Explanation of Variances:

- (1) Net result of an increase in the number of exports to other provinces and states for recoverable fire suppression costs and an increase in recoverable municipal fire protection activity.
- (2) Primarily due to an increase in unredeemed bottle deposits.

Fish and Wildlife Development Fund

The Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF) is a special purpose fund used by the Ministry to support habitat protection and management throughout the province. Revenues are transferred to the FWDF based on an amount equivalent to 30 per cent of habitat licence certificates and certain hunting, trapping and fishing licence fees collected by the province. Basic expenditures relate to habitat protection through the purchase of habitat and management and enhancement of habitat.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2011-12 relating to the operations of the fund.

Audited financial statements will be available at www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the publications section of their website.

Fish and Wildlife Development Fund for the period ended March 31, 2012

(based on unaudited figures)	2011-12 Budget (\$000s)	2011-12 Actual (\$000s)	Variance (\$000s)	
Revenue	4,039	3,901	(138)	
Expenses:				
Fish Enhancement Projects	1,684	1,772	88	
Wildlife Habitat Projects	1,672	1,849	177	1
Grant in Lieu of Taxes	250	228	(22)	
Total Expenses	3,606	3,849	243	
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	433	52	(381)	

Explanation of Variances:

(1) Due to higher than anticipated expenditures on contractual service.

For More Information

The Ministry of Environment welcomes your comments and questions.

We can be contacted by e-mail: centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca

Phone: Greg Leake at (306) 787-5511

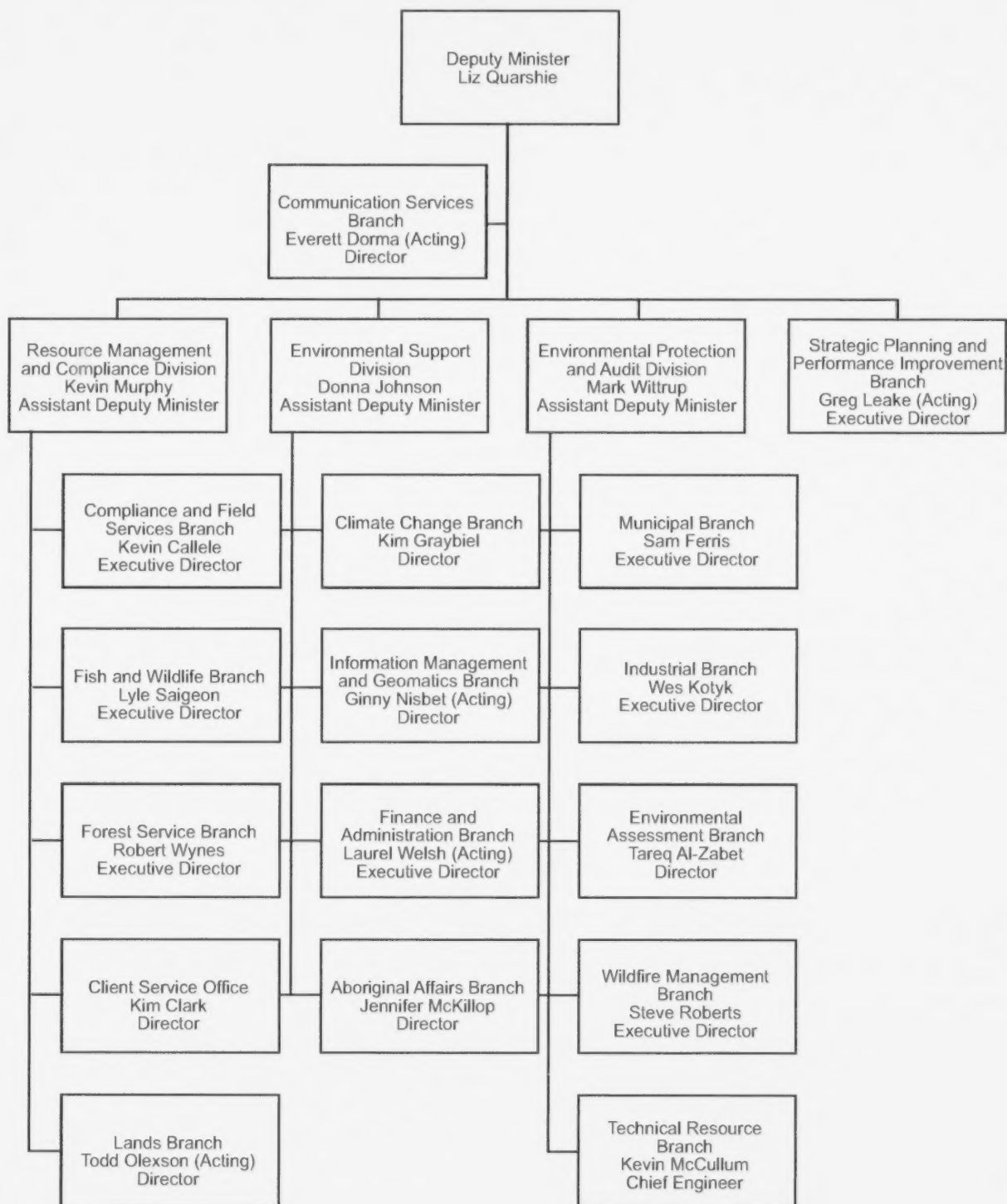
If your inquiry is of a general nature call toll free in North America 1-800-567-4224

Or mail: 3211 Albert Street, REGINA SK S4S 5W6

This annual report is also available in electronic format from the Ministry's website at www.environment.gov.sk.ca

Appendix A – Organizational Chart

Ministry of Environment organizational structure as of March 31, 2012.



Appendix B – Administered Legislation

The Ministry derives its mandate, responsibilities and authority from a number of Acts and regulations under those Acts.

Acts currently assigned to the Minister of Environment are:

- *The Clean Air Act* protects Saskatchewan's air quality by regulating emissions that originate in the province.
- *The Conservation Easements Act* encourages private landowners, conservation organizations and governments to protect ecologically sensitive lands and natural areas through voluntary agreements.
- *The Ecological Reserves Act* protects unique, natural ecosystems and landscape features through the designation of Crown land as ecological reserves.
- *The Environmental Assessment Act* provides a practical means to ensure that development proceeds with adequate environmental safeguards and in a manner broadly understood by and acceptable to the public through the integrated assessment of environmental impact.
- *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002* protects the air, land and water resources of the Province through regulating and controlling potentially harmful activities and substances.
- *The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994* enables sustainable management of fisheries resources by affirming provincial ownership of fish, creating a provincial licensing system, and regulating allocation of fish resources, fish marketing, aquaculture, sport fishing and commercial fishing.
- *The Forestry Professions Act* establishes the Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals, an organization independent of government and industry, responsible for ensuring that its members maintain required standards for competency and conduct.
- *The Forest Resources Management Act* allows the Ministry to implement a framework for sustainable management of Saskatchewan's forest resources.
- *The Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Heritage Act* recognizes hunting, fishing and trapping as protected activities in accordance with the law in Saskatchewan and designates November 15th of each year as Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Heritage Day.
- *The Litter Control Act* makes littering an offence and provides for the establishment and administration of a deposit refund system for various beverage containers.
- *The Natural Resources Act* (subject to OC 208/96) establishes the Province's mandate to manage, protect, conserve and develop renewable resources in a sustainable manner.
- *The Prairie and Forest Fires Act, 1982* provides for the prevention, detection and suppression of prairie and forest fires originating in provincial forests, parks and on unoccupied Crown lands. It also governs compensation for conscripted fire fighters and authorizes establishment and regulation of fire bans and burning permit areas.
- *The Protection of the Wild Ponies of the Bronson Forest Act* provides protection for the wild ponies of the Bronson Forest.
- *The Provincial Lands Act* creates authority for the management and transfer of Crown lands.
- *The Sale or Lease of Certain Lands Act* gives Cabinet the ability to place conditions on the transfer or lease of lands listed in a schedule to this Act.
- *The State of the Environment Report Act* provides for public accountability in reporting of environmental conditions and activities through the preparation and release of a State of the Environment Report every two years.
- *The Water Appeal Board Act* establishes the Water Appeal Board and enables the board to hear appeals regarding water, sewage and drainage issues.
- *The Wildlife Act, 1998* provides for the management, conservation and protection of wildlife resources through the issuance and revocation of licences, the prosecution of wildlife offences and the establishment of annual hunting seasons.

-
- *The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act* provides for the management, conservation and protection of wildlife lands and wildlife by preventing the sale and alteration of certain Crown lands.

Acts currently assigned to the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority are:

- *The Conservation and Development Act*
- *The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Act, 2005*
- *The Water Power Act*
- *The Watershed Associations Act*

New acts that have received Royal Assent but are not yet in force:

- *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010* protects the air, land and water resources of the province through regulating and controlling potentially harmful activities and substances. This Act, once proclaimed, will repeal and replace *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002*, *The Clean Air Act*, *The State of the Environment Report Act* and *The Litter Control Act*.
- *The Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Act* is aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as well as promoting investments in low-carbon technologies.

Appendix C – Key Partners and Stakeholders

The organizations listed below are considered the Ministry of Environment's primary partners/stakeholders because they:

- are provincial in scope;
- have a significant impact on the environment or natural resources; or
- are involved in major current issues or maintain a long term relationship with the Ministry.

-
- Aallicann Wood Suppliers Inc.
 - Agency Chiefs Tribal Council
 - Agrium Inc.
 - AREVA Resources Canada Inc.
 - Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan
 - Association of Regional Waste Management Authorities of Saskatchewan
 - Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals
 - Battlefords Agency Tribal Chiefs
 - BHP Billiton
 - Cameco Corporation
 - Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors
 - Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
 - Canadian Bankers Association
 - Canadian Cancer Society
 - Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre
 - Canadian Energy Pipeline Association
 - Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
 - Canadian Food Inspection Agency
 - Canadian Forest Service
 - Canadian Heritage River System Board
 - Canadian Institute of Forestry
 - Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre
 - Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
 - Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
 - Canadian Petroleum Products Institute
 - Canadian Plains Research Center
 - Canadian Standards Association
 - Canoe Saskatchewan
 - Carrier Forest Products Inc.
 - Claude Resources Inc.
 - CleanFarms
 - Communities of Tomorrow
 - Consulting Engineers of Saskatchewan
 - Consumer's Co-operative Refineries Ltd.
 - Crop Life Canada
 - Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan
 - Ducks Unlimited Canada
 - Edgewood Forest Products
 - Enbridge Inc.
 - Enterprise Saskatchewan
 - Environment Canada
 - Envirotec Services Inc.

- ERCO Worldwide
- Evraz Inc. NA
- Federated Co-operatives Ltd.
- Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
- File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council
- First Nations University of Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- FPInnovations-FERIC
- Golden Band Resources Inc.
- Green Lake Métis Wood Products Ltd.
- Health Canada
- Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting
- Husky Energy
- Imperial Oil Ltd.
- Independent Forest Operators of Saskatchewan
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Interior West Fire Council
- Iogen Corp.
- Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership
- L & M Wood Products Ltd.
- Lehner Wood Preservers Ltd.
- Louis Dreyfus Canada Ltd.
- Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp
- Meadow Lake OSB Limited Partnership
- Meadow Lake Tribal Council
- MeeToos Forest Products Ltd.
- Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MNS) and MNS Regions
- Mistik Management Ltd.
- Moose Jaw Asphalt (Gibsons Energy)
- Mosaic Co.
- Natural Resources Canada
- Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Nature Saskatchewan
- New North
- Noramera Bioenergy Corp.
- NorSask Forest Products Ltd.
- Northern Saskatchewan Trappers Association
- Northwest Communities Wood Products Ltd.
- North West Municipalities Association
- Northwest Wildland Fire Compact
- Oilsands Quest Inc.
- Operator's Certification Board
- Paper Excellence
- Parkland Industries Ltd.
- Parks Canada
- Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin
- Potash One
- Potash Corp. of Saskatchewan
- Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative
- Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration
- Prairie Mines and Royalty Ltd.
- Prince Albert Grand Council
- Product Care Association (Saskatchewan Paint Stewardship Program)
- Provincial Association of Resort Communities of Saskatchewan

- Regina Fish and Game League
- Richardson Nutrition Holding Ltd.
- Sakâw Askiy Management Inc.
- Saskatchewan Applied Science Technologists and Technicians
- Saskatchewan Archaeological Society
- Saskatchewan Association of Firearm Education
- Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres
- Saskatchewan Association of Resource Recovery Corporation
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Water Pipelines
- Saskatchewan Black Powder Association
- Saskatchewan Bowhunters Association
- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce
- Saskatchewan Cooperative Fisheries Ltd.
- Saskatchewan Eco Network
- Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association
- Saskatchewan Environmental Society
- Saskatchewan Falconry Association
- Saskatchewan Federation of Flyfishers
- Saskatchewan Forestry Association
- Saskatchewan Government and General Employees Union
- Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund Management Corporation
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST)
- Saskatchewan Minerals Inc.
- Saskatchewan Mining Association
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources
- Saskatchewan Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Health
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport
- Saskatchewan Nature and Ecotourism Association
- Saskatchewan Outfitters Association
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association
- Saskatchewan Potash Producers Association
- Saskatchewan Public Works Association
- Saskatchewan Pulse Growers Association
- Saskatchewan Research Council
- Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation
- Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association
- Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association
- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association
- Saskatchewan Trappers Association
- Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association
- Saskatchewan Waste Electronic Equipment Program
- Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council
- Saskatchewan Water Appeal Board
- Saskatchewan Water and Wastewater Association
- Saskatchewan Watershed Authority
- Saskatchewan Wild Rice Council
- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
- Saskatoon Tribal Council
- SaskEnergy
- SaskPower
- SaskTel
- SASKTIP Inc.
- SaskWater
- Shell Canada
- Shore Gold Inc.
- Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
- Southeast Saskatchewan Airshed Association
- Southeast Treaty #4 Tribal Council
- South Saskatchewan Wildlife Association
- Suncor/Petro-Canada
- Terra Grain Fuels
- Tolko Industries Ltd./Meadow Lake OSB
- Touchwood Agency Tribal Council
- Tourism Saskatchewan
- TransCanada Corp.
- University of Regina
- University of Saskatchewan
- Vermette Trucking and Wood Preservers Ltd.
- Viterro Inc.
- Wascana Centre Authority
- Western Yellowhead Air Management Zone
- Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., Saskatchewan Division
- Wildwest Steelhead Corp.
- Whitemud Resources Inc.
- Wood Preservation Canada
- World Wildlife Fund
- Yara Belle Plaine Inc.
- Yorkton Tribal Council
- Zelensky Brothers

Appendix D – Publications Released by Ministry

Environment

- 2011-12 Environment Plan
- 2011-12 Budget Highlights
- 2011 State of the Environment Report
- 2010-11 Environment Annual Report
- 2010-11 Environment Highlight Sheet
- 2010-11 Drinking Water Annual Report
- 2010-11 Drinking Water Highlight Sheet

Results-based Regulation

- Frequently Asked Questions
-

Saskatchewan Environmental Code

- Saskatchewan Environmental Code – DRAFT
- Code Discussion Document
- Code Summary

Air

- Saskatchewan Air Monitoring Lab Fact Sheet

Climate Change

- Hydraulic Launch Assist Garbage Truck Fact Sheet

Environmental Assessment

- EA Annual Update 2011
- Environmental Review Guidelines for Oil and Gas Activities
- Technical Proposal Guidelines
- Environmental Assessment Process

Fishing

- 2010 Fish Facts
- 2010 Stocked Waters Guide
- 2011 Anglers' Guide
- 2011 Anglers' Guide – French
- Fish Diseases
- Fish ID
- Fisheries Management Field Areas
- Fishing FAQ's
- Mercury in Fish Consumption Report 2010
- 2011 Fish Facts
- Fisheries Management Fact Sheets (Aboriginal, Recreational, Commercial, Outfitting)

Forest

- Field Guide to the Ecosites of Saskatchewan's Provincial Forests, 2010
- Saskatchewan's 2009 State of the Environment Report – State of Saskatchewan's Provincial Forests
- Saskatchewan Forest Vegetation Inventory
- Forest Pests Fact Sheets
- Dwarf Mistletoe Ecology and Management

Go Green

- Eat Healthy Foods Fact Sheet
- Native Plants in the Classroom
- ElectroPure Technology
- Landscape Connectivity Model and Focused Habitat Securement Fact Sheet

Hunting

- 2011 Hunting Frequently Asked Questions
- 2011 Hunters' and Trappers' Guide
- 2011 Hunters' and Trappers' Guide – French
- 2011 Big Game Draw and Spring Hunting Guide
- 2011 Saskatchewan Resident Big Game Draw Overview
- 2011 Canadian Resident White-tailed Deer Draw Overview
- 2011 Statistics – Applicants/Licences Issued by Pool Status

Wildlife

- Invasive Species Fact Sheet
- Invasive Species Brochure
- Diseases from Wildlife
- Summary of the Provincial CWD Sampling Effort
- Northern Snakehead Factsheet
- Prohibited Fish Fact Sheet

Trapping

- Saskatchewan Wild Fur Harvest and Cash Values 2010-11

Waste Management

- Septic Waste Disposal Fact Sheet

Wildfire Management

- 2011 Saskatchewan Pilot's Handbook
- Protecting Your Home from Wildfire
- Best Practices for Open Burning
- Saskatchewan Environment Protocol for Providing Assistance on Municipal Fires